THE

SCOTS MAGAZINE,

AND

Edinburgh Literary Miscellany,

FOR MAY 1805:

With a view of the COLUMN *raised to the Memory of* SMOLLETT, *and the* HOUSE *in which he was born.*

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State

COLUMN to the MEMORY of SMOLLETT, and the HOUSE in which HE WAS BORN.

State of the BAROMETER, in inches and decimals, and of Farenheit's THERMOMETER in the open air, taken in the morning before sun-rise, and at noon; and the quantity of rain-water fallen, in inches and decimals, from April 26. to May 25. 1805, in the vicinity of Edinburgh.

1805.	Barom.	Thermom. M.	Thermom. N.	Rain. In. Pts.	Weather.
April 26	29.6	41	54	——	Cloudy
27	29.61	38	45	0.06	Rain
28	29.7	32	54	——	Clear
29	29.5	33	55	——	Ditto
30	29.52	33	53	——	Ditto
May 1	29.4	34	48	0.25	Snow
2	29.41	37	55	——	Clear
3	29.5	31	49	0.05	Rain
4	29.71	37	55	——	Clear
5	29.07	35	59	0.01	Hail
6	29.71	37	58	0.02	Ditto
7	29.65	30	58	0.01	Ditto
8	29.6	38	50	——	Clear
9	29.51	39	54	——	Ditto
10	29.14	42	50	0.04	Showers
11	28.9	42	48	0.05	Rain
12	29.78	40	57	0.03	Snow
13	30.	39	61	——	Clear
14	30.04	40	62	——	Ditto
15	29.8	42	55	0.04	Showers
16	29.65	45	47	0.08	Rain
17	29.9	44	61	——	Clear
18	30.	48	54	——	Ditto
19	29.92	45	47	0.35	Rain
20	30.	46	51	0.1	Ditto
21	29.91	46	59	——	Clear
22	29.9	49	58	——	Ditto
23	29.91	42	60	——	Ditto
24	29.86	38	64	——	Ditto
25	29.8	45	71	——	Ditto
				——	
Quantity of Rain				1.09	

High Water at LEITH For JUNE 1805.

Days.	Morn. H.	Morn. M.	Even. H.	Even. M.
Sa. 1	4	51	5	12
Su. 2	5	34	5	57
M. 3	6	21	6	47
T. 4	7	16	7	51
W. 5	8	26	9	3
Th. 6	9	45	10	23
Fr. 7	10	47	11	29
Sa. 8	11	40	—	—
Su. 9	0	6	0	30
M. 10	0	53	1	14
Tu. 11	1	34	1	54
W. 12	2	12	2	31
Th. 13	2	49	3	8
Fr. 14	3	26	3	45
Sa. 15	4	3	4	22
Su. 16	4	40	4	59
M. 17	5	17	5	35
T. 18	5	54	6	13
W. 19	6	31	6	50
Th. 20	7	13	7	47
Fr. 21	8	23	9	4
Sa. 22	9	47	10	28
Su. 23	11	6	11	39
M. 24	—	—	0	12
Tu. 25	0	50	1	15
W. 26	1	39	2	1
Th. 27	2	23	2	45
Fr. 28	3	6	3	25
Sa. 29	3	44	4	4
Su. 30	4	23	4	42

MOON's PHASES FOR JUNE 1805.

Apparent time at Edinburgh.

	D.	H.	M.
First Qutr.	4.	7	57. Morn.
Full Moon,	12.	5	27. Morn.
Last Qutr.	20.	6	20. Morn.
New Moon,	26.	11	0. Even.

OBSERVATIONS.

June 4. King George III. born, (1738)
5. Ernest Augustus Duke of Cumberland born, (1771)
21. Longest day
24. Midsummer.

THE

THE
Scots Magazine,
AND
EDINBURGH LITERARY MISCELLANY,
FOR *MAY* 1805.

DESCRIPTION *of the* VIEW.

WE have been favoured with the annexed View, taken by a young Lady, of theColumn raised to the memory of the illustrious Smollett, including the house in which he was born; beautifully situated on the banks of the Leven, near to Dunbarton, which, if not repaired, in a few years will be in complete ruin. We wish to preserve the vestiges of this venerable mansion, in which was laid the first scenes of Roderick Random; and our readers must recollect, that Dr Smollett himself has painted the place of his nativity, when near the close of his days in a far distant country, with the most elegant and tender simplicity, in the Ode addressed to Leven Water:

On Leven banks, while free to rove,
And tune the rural pipe to love,
I envied not the happiest swain
That ever trod th' Arcadian plain, &c.

ORIGINAL LETTERS *of the late* DR SMOLLETT, *written a few months before his death.*

(In the possession of a Gentleman in Edinburgh.)

DEAR SQUIRE,

I Wrote you last week by the post, in answer to yours, that transmitted the Commissary's intimation concerning his proposed improvements; and I give you this additional trouble, to introduce the bearer Mr C.— who proposes (I think) to settle in your neighbourhood, andwhom I can very safely recommend to your good offices, having had sufficient time to be acquainted with his character, which is really respectable. On Tuesday we were alarmed by an earthquake that visited us in repeated shocks, some of which were violent and terrible. Mr C. can inform you of the particulars, as they don't seem to have greatly disturbed his intellects, whatever effects they may have produced on the people of Leghorn, great part of whom fled from the city, some to the country, and some on board ships and vessels in the harbour and canals. I could hardly keep my own family within doors; but, for my own part, I thought it was better to run some small risque of being smothered quietly

quietly in my own warm bed, than expose myself to certain death from the damps of a dark winter night while the cold was excessive. The bearer can also make you acquainted with the circumstances of my health and manner of living (if you desire to know them,) and being a dilettante in music, will communicate his ideas on that subject to you and George Cowper.

I repeat my compts. to Mrs T. to your mother, to Capt. James, to Jeanny, and all friends; and I am, without flummery,

Dear Laird,
Yours always,
Ts. Smollett.

Leghorn, Jan. 9th, 1771.

To *A. T.* of *S——n, Esq.*

Extract of a Letter from the Same, to the late Jno. Hunter, Esq, dated Leghorn, Jan. 9th, 1771.

"With respect to myself, I have nothing to say, but that if I can prevail upon my wife to execute my last will, you shall receive my poor carcase in a box, after I am dead, to be placed among your rarities. I am already so dry and emaciated, that I may pass for an Egyptian mummy, without any other preparation than some pitch and painted linen; unless you think I may deserve the denomination of a curiosity in my own character, I mean that of

Your old friend,
and affectionate, humble servant,
Ts. Smollett.

N. B. The Doctor died in Sept. following.

Account *of the* National Debt redeemed.

An account, shewing what has been redeemed of the National Debt, the Land Tax, and Imperial Loan, to the 1st of May 1805.

Redeemed by annual Million, &c.	L.53,968,714
Ditto by L.1 per cent. per annum on loans	40,102,623
Ditto by Land Tax	21,936,759
Ditto by L.1 per cent. per annum on imperial loan	579,850
Total,	L.116,587,946

The sum to be expended in the ensuing quarter is L.1,991,065 : 3 : 10

Memoirs *of the late* Professor Robison.

JOHN ROBISON was born at Boghall, in the county of Stirling. His father, a respectable merchant in the town of Glasgow, having, by a course of successful industry, acquired considerable property, employed it in the purchase of this estate, to which he retired during the latter period of his life. There being no proper school in the neighbourhood, the subject of this memoir received the whole of his education in Glasgow, and before entering on his 19th year had completed his course of study at that University. Here he acquired a considerable proficiency in all the different branches of knowledge; but, as may be supposed, early manifested a peculiar predilection for the mathematical sciences. And though he went deep into Algebra and Fluxions, he yet derived from Simson, and always retained, a disposition to prefer the more accurate though less comprehensive system of ancient geometry. The first thing which is said to have obtained him the notice

of

of that eminent professor, was his having produced a geometrical solution of a problem which had been given out to the class in an Algebraic form.

Mr Robison certainly possessed peculiar advantages, both in his instructors and College companions. Smith was then teaching moral philosophy; Moore, the Greek Language; Simson, Mathematics; and Leechman, Theology; and he resided for some time in the house of the latter gentleman. Among his fellow students were Mr *Windham*, lately *Secretary at War*, with whom he formed an intimate friendship, which continued to the end of his life; *Richardson*, since eminent as a poet, a critic, a philosopher, and a professor; and Dr Gillies, so distinguished by his illustrations of Grecian history and politics.

Mr Robison was designed by his parents for the clerical profession; but though he was deeply impressed with the truths of religion, he had yet contracted an insurmountable aversion to the professional study of theology. His friends therefore looked round for some situation in which his mathematical talents might be turned to advantage. Dr Dick, professor of natural philosophy, being in want of an assistant, Mr Robison, then not 19 years of age, was recommended by Dr Smith as a proper person for discharging that office. Dick thought him too young; but acknowledging his merit, he joined with Dr Simson in recommending him to Dr Blair, prebendary of Westminster, whom they understood to be in quest of a young man to go to sea with Edward Duke of York, and read mathematics with his royal highness, and a young officer who was to attend him as a companion. On reaching London, however, these flattering prospects were found to have no solid foundation; the Duke of York was not even going to sea. As returning to Glasgow would now have been awkward, he agreed to go to sea as mathematical tutor to Mr Knowles, eldest son of Admiral Knowles, and the Duke's intended companion. His pupil being appointed Lieutenant on board the Royal William, Mr Robison, at his own request, was rated midshipman. Here he spent the three following years, which he often spoke of as the happiest of his life. He devoted himself particularly to the study of the art of *seamanship*, and was sometimes employed in making surveys of coasts and rivers. In this capacity his merit seems to have attracted the notice of Lord Anson, then at the head of the Admiralty Board, by whom he was sent, in 1762, to Jamaica, in order to make trial of Harrison's time-keeper.

But on returning from this mission, he found his prospects of advancement completely blasted. Lord Anson had died; the vessel on board of which was his pupil Mr Knowles had foundered at sea, and himself with all the crew perished. Admiral Knowles had retired to the country, inconsolable for the loss of his son. At the same time the appearance of an approaching peace left him no room to expect promotion in the navy. He determined therefore to return to Glasgow, and Admiral Knowles soon after placed under his care his remaining son, now Rear Admiral Sir Charles Knowles.

At Glasgow he renewed his studies with great assiduity, but his instructors were changed. Dr Simson was dead; Dr Smith had left Glasgow to travel with the Duke of Buccleugh. But the place of the latter gentleman had been well supplied by Dr Reid, and Mr Robison had also an opportunity of attending the lectures of Mr Miller on Civil Law, and of Dr Black on Chemistry. When Dr Black, in 1769, was called to Edinburgh, Mr Robison

was

was appointed by the University of Glasgow to succeed that great man as lecturer on chemistry. He read lectures on that science for three years, with great applause, and had among his pupils men who have since ranked with the most eminent chemists of the age.

In 1770, Sir Charles Knowles having gone to Russia, on the invitation of the Empress Catharine, then intent on the improvement of her marine, invited Mr Robison to accompany him as his official secretary, with a salary of 250l. a year. As he was still attached to the navy, and to his former patron, and as, tho' lecturing on chemistry, he did not enjoy the rank of a professor, Mr Robison made no hesitation in accepting the proposal.

His conduct at St Petersburgh, and the knowledge which he had there occasion to display, seems to have powerfully recommended him to the Board of Admiralty; for, in 1772, he was appointed *Inspector General of the Corps of Marine Cadets*, an academy consisting of upwards of four hundred young gentlemen and scholars, under the tuition of about forty teachers. As the person who fills this office has the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, it became necessary, by the customs of Russia, that Mr Robison should prove himself a *gentleman*, or what is there called a *dworanin*, and the proof required was entered on record.

In this office his employment consisted in visiting daily every class of the academy; in receiving weekly reports from each master, stating the diligence and progress of every person in his class; and twice a year in advancing the young gentlemen into the higher classes, according to their respective merits. Of these he was considered as the sole judge, and from his sentence there lay no appeal. He lived in terms of the utmost harmony with General *Kutizoff*, who was military head of the academy, and held the third place in the Admiralty College. By him all Mr Robison's measures were supported, and he was even introduced to the notice of the Grand Duke, as an admirer of the Russian language. But though his situation was thus honourable and advantageous, he felt that something more was necessary to render it comfortable. He could not but regret his distance from his native country, and residence among a people who, though rapidly improving, were still tinctured with barbarism. His appointment also attached him, not to the capital, but to Cronstadt, where he was nearly cut off from all civilized and enlightened society. Receiving an invitation therefore from the Magistrates and Town-Council to fill the place of Professor of Natural Philosophy in the University of Edinburgh, he gladly removed to that city. The Grand Duke parted with him reluctantly, and requested, when he left the academy, that he would take with him some young men of talents from the corps of cadets; he promised him a pension of 400 rubles (80l.) a year. That pension was regularly paid, only during the three years that the gentlemen, whom he selected, resided in Edinburgh; it was then discontinued, we believe, because he did not continue a correspondence with the academy, and communicate all the British improvements in marine education.

Of his lectures high expectations were formed, which were fully realized. He has only been complained of as somewhat abstruse, and as not bringing himself down sufficiently to the comprehension of his youthful auditors. This, however, appears to have been owing not to any want of order or perspicuity, but to his expecting to find in them a more complete acquaintance with pure mathematics than many of them had attained.

attained. Unfortunately he was prevented for many years from teaching, by a languishing state of health, accompanied with peculiar depression of spirits, a not unfrequent attendant on too entire a devotion to mathematical studies, and of the recluse and pensive habits which they tend to generate. By the judicious choice, however, which he made of substitutes, the want of his personal instructions was less severely felt. For a year or two before his death, he began again to lecture, having only engaged the Rev. Mr Thomas Macknight to afford him occasional assistance; an office which was performed by that gentleman with acknowledged ability.

When the Royal Society of Edinburgh was incorporated by Royal Charter in 1783, he was chosen by that learned body to be their General Secretary, and discharged that office to their entire satisfaction, till a few years ago, when bad health obliged him to resign it. To their transactions he has contributed several very interesting papers, of which the following is, we believe, a correct list.

1. The orbit and motion of the Georgium Sidus determined directly from observations, vol. I. p. 305.
2. Observations on the places of the Georgian planet made at Edinburgh, with an Equatorial Instrument. II. p. 37.
3. On the motion of light, as affected by refracting and reflecting substances, which are also in motion. II. p. 83.

In 1798 Mr Robison published a work which attracted, in an uncommon degree, the attention of the public; we mean that on Free Masonry. It is needless to say how different have been the judgments pronounced upon this publication, according to the different parties which men have espoused. That there is considerable ground for the statements contained in it, appears evidently from the testimony of the most respectable and best informed German authors. At the same time, several circumstances may have led him to form an exaggerated idea of its magnitude, and still more of its consequences. But whatever opinion may be formed on this subject, every impartial reader will acknowledge, that its mistakes are unintentional, and that it was written from the best of motives, and with the view of defending the most important interests of religion and virtue.

A few years after, on the death of Dr Black, he published the lectures of that great chemical discoverer, with notes, which are universally allowed to add greatly to their value. In consequence of Mr Robison's connection with the court of Russia, a copy of this publication was sent to the reigning Emperor, and he received, in return, the present of a box set in diamonds, accompanied by a letter strongly expressive of the regard in which his character and talents were held by that virtuous and enlightened monarch.

In the course of last year, he published the first volume of Elements of Mechanical Philosophy, which was to comprize the substance of his lectures on that subject. Of which we need only say, that it has if possible exceeded the very high expectations which were formed, by the whole learned world, of its merit and importance. It was meant to extend to four or five volumes: but a fatal obstacle opposed its completion. On Monday the 28th January he delivered a lecture, as usual, in his class, and went afterwards to take his accustomed walk. Being exposed to a greater degree of cold than usual, he was seized soon after his return with an extreme degree of debility, which, on the Wednesday morning after, terminated in his death. It

seems

seems to have been less the consequence of any particular illness, than of a frame worn out by long continued illness and suffering.

Besides the loss experienced by his friends and pupils, the public have sustained an irreparable one in the stop put to the continuance of the great work above mentioned. We are happy to understand, however, that materials have been left for a second volume, which in due time will make its appearance.

Mr Robison contributed also a very considerable number of articles to the Encyclopædia Britannica. These are to be collected and published by his friends; and they will form, no doubt, a most valuable abridgement of physical and mathematical science.

Population *of some of the* Principal Towns *in* England.

London,	864,845	Bolton,	12,549
Manchester,	84,020	Colchester,	11,520
Liverpool,	77,653	Gosport,	11,295
Birmingham,	73,670	Wigan,	10,989
Bristol,	63,645	Derby,	10,832
Leeds,	53,162	Chatham,	10,395
Plymouth,	43,104	Dudley,	10,107
Norwich,	36,832	Lynn,	10,096
Bath,	32,200	Halifax,	8,886
Portsmouth,	32,186	Macclesfield,	8,743
Sheffield,	31,314	Whitehaven,	8,742
Hull,	29,516	Maidstone,	8,027
Nottingham,	28,861	Southampton,	7,913
Newcastle,	28,366	Devizes,	7,909
Exeter,	17,398	Salisbury,	7,668
Leicester,	16,953	Bury,	7,655
Coventry,	16,034	Gloucester,	7,579
Chester,	15,052	Wellington,	7,531
Yarmouth,	14,845	Lincoln,	7,398
Shrewsbury,	14,739	Bradford,	7,302
Wolverhampton,	12,565	Berwick,	7,187

Author *of the* Ballad *of* Auld Robin Gray.

IN answer to a query which appeared in the Monthly Magazine, concerning the author of the beautiful Scotch Ballad of "Auld Robin Gray," it is stated to have been written by Lady Anne Lindsay, now Bernard, daughter to the late Earl of Balcarras. The following little poem is also given as the production of the same lady:

Why tarries my love?
Ah! where does he rove?
My love is long absent from me.
Come hither, my dove,
I'll write to my love,
And send him a letter by thee.

To find him, swift fly!
The letter I'll tye
Secure to thy leg with a string:
Ah! not to my leg,
Fair lady, I beg,
But fasten it under my wing.

Her dove she did deck,
She drew o'er his neck
A bell and a collar so gay;
She tied to his wing
The scroll with a string,
Then kiss'd him and sent him away.

It blew and it rain'd,
The pigeon disdain'd
To seek shelter,—undaunted he flew;
Till wet was his wing,
And painful the string,
So heavy the letter it grew.

He flew all around,
Till Colin he found,
Then perch'd on his hand with the prize,
Whose heart, while he reads,
With tenderness bleeds
For the pigeon that flutters and dies.

To

To the Editor.

On the Pleasures of INTELLECT *as contrasted with those of* IMAGINATION.

SIR,

IN an Essay on the Pleasures of Imagination, inserted in your last number, I had occasion to observe, that in all ages and countries mankind have had recourse for amusement to these pleasures. But even they, in certain situations, would lose their relish. The keenest enjoyments, when too long protracted, become flat and insipid. Some men posses no very poignant sensibility to the charms of poetry, and variety would be delightful to all. A few would feel a stronger inclination to exercise their judgment than their fancy, and that they were better fitted to explain with accuracy, than to describe with vigour, the phenomena which took place around them.

" For, since the claims
Of social life, to different labours urge
The active powers of man, with wise intent
The hand of Nature on peculiar minds
Imprints a different bias, and to each
Decrees its province in the common toil.
To some she taught the fabric of the spheres,
The changeful moon, the circuit of the stars,
The golden zones of heaven: to some she gave
To weigh the moment of eternal things,
Of time and space, and fate's unbroken chain,
And will's quick impulse: others by the hand
She led o'er vales and mountains, to explore
What healing virtue swells the tender veins
Of herbs and flowers; or what the beams of morn
Draw forth, distilling from the clifted rind
In balmy tears." *Akenside.*

* In this manner would the pleasures of intellect first be tasted: thus would a vast addition be made to the sum of human enjoyment, and a boundless field laid open to human exertion.

In considering the Imagination and the Intellect as sources of pleasure, the chief difference between them seems to be, that in the case of the former, pleasure is the sole object, in that of the latter, only a secondary consideration. Of all the arts which minister to the gratification of taste, the sole intention is to give pleasure, and when this intention is executed, their ultimate end is attained. Every science, however, which furnishes employment to the Intellect, bestows intellectual pleasure only as the reward of intellectual exertion; and the intensity of this pleasure bears always an exact proportion to the value or insignificance of the truth discovered. The pleasures of taste are rewarded with amusement; those of intellect with instruction. The former may be attained at a small expence of thought, the latter require intense application and painful exertion. The former therefore are the more alluring; the latter, the more useful.

A poetical mind is generally distinguished by the *vivacity* of its conceptions;

* The reader will easily perceive that any inquiry into the rise either of the arts or sciences is not so much as attempted: the design of this essay being, not to trace their origin, but to explain their difference, and slightly allude to their ultimate sources.

May 1805.

ceptions, and the brilliancy of its imagination, while a philosophical genius is equally remarkable for the *accuracy* of its conceptions and the soundness of its judgments. The former qualities are most remarkable in the season of youth; the latter during the period of manhood*. Upon this account, all men of poetical genius, and a great proportion of philosophers, have been allured by the charms of poetry before they resigned themselves to the pursuits of science; upon the same account, in every age the fine arts have taken precedency of the sciences, and in every country the bards have sung before the philosophers have taught.

As vivacity of conception is the characteristic of poetical talents, and correctness in the operations of that faculty is the chief constituent of philosophical genius, it has pleased some philosophers to consider these two qualities as altogether incompatible in the same mind; and a few have gone the length of affirming, that in whatever degree a person possesses the one, in the same degree he must be destitute of the other. This conclusion, if restricted to the mathematical sciences, is perhaps true to a considerable extent; but if applied to the other departments of science, it appears to be not only erroneous in theory, but totally unwarranted by experience. In support of this opinion I propose with great diffidence the following considerations:

1. There is certainly no inconsistency in supposing that these two qualities of conception may be united in the mind of the same person; on the contrary, it even seems reasonable to imagine, *a priori*, that minds cast in a superior mould may be endowed with every perfection of which the human intellect has hitherto been found susceptible. A combination even of those which, by the argumen I am now endeavouring to combat, are accounted so discordant would certainly neither involve any deviation from the order of Nature, nor present any obstruction to the designs of Providence. The habitual employment of what may be termed the philosophical powers of the mind, by the intense application which is necessary for their successful exertion, may operate upon the poetical powers in such a manner as to check the vivacity of conception, and restrain the flights in which imagination loves to indulge. The exercise of the poetical powers, on the other hand, may be attended with various disadvantages to the philosophical. By agitating the passions it may confuse the intellect, and by habituating the mind to large and comprehensive views of nature, may disqualify it for contemplating steadily the minute parts and distinct subdivisions of the objects under review; in short, it may dissipate attention, and prevent that concentration of the faculties which is so indispensably necessary to the success of all scientific investigations.

If by the first of these mutual operations there is meant nothing more than the injurious effects of violent

* This progress has been observed in the case of Poets themselves. The great Corneille, especially in his latter pieces, frequently delivers philosophical precepts when he should have uttered poetical sentiments; and sometimes addresses himself to the understanding, when he ought to have spoken exclusively to the heart. This, while it corroborates the above observation, is considered by Voltaire as a capital defect: "Le grand defaut de Corneille, says that acute critic, est de faire "raisonnemens quand il faut du sentiment, le public ne s'appercut pas d' abond "dece defaut, parce qu'il, etoit cach par tout de beautes. *Mais il augmenta "avec l'age*, & jeta dans toutes ses dernieres pieces une langueur insupportable."

violent mental labour upon the poetical faculties, the slightest reflection will shew, that there is enough in the disadvantages attending poetical composition to produce all these effects, without having recourse to the toils of the philosopher, and the fatigues of intellectual exertion.

There never yet was published a poem, possessed of any title to the admiration of the world, which did not cost its author more pains than he was willing to acknowledge*. The certainty that nothing valuable can be procured without corresponding pains and exertion, that most poets have been indolent and averse to labour, that the different compositions of the same poet have always attained different degrees of celebrity, and that some of the most brilliant performances of the *mens divinior* have been the joint production of genius and of want, seem to mark the struggles by which poetical excellence is attained, and the almost insuparable difficulties which will ever obstruct the preservation of literary fame.

With regard to the second point, namely, the injurious consequences resulting to the judgement from the frequent exercise of the imagination, it is undeniable, that a man who, after inflaming his passions and unsetting his intellect, by giving way to the enthusiasm of poetical composition, should immediately commence some philosophical investigation, would have very little chance of prosecuting his inquiries with success; just as a surgeon, after violent bodily exercise would be totally disqualified for the performance of any nice professional operation. But in the same manner as the latter, after the temporary fever in his blood has subsided, and his tremulous limbs have resumed their wonted firmness, might perform the surgical operation with ability and success; so, after the former has checked the flights of imagination, and reduced the powers of his mind to their ordinary level, when he has laid aside his poetical enthusiasm and corrected the extravagancies to which his fancy gave plausibility, would certainly have reason to complain of injustice, were he to be considered as unworthy an admission into the peaceful walks of science. It is difficult to see for what reason, when there is a due interval between the exertion of each, the operations of imagination should at all interfere with those of intellect. Nay, in the same manner as the exercise which the surgeon has undergone disqualifies him at the time for the discharge of his duty, but renders him afterwards doubly fit for it, by invigorating his muscles, and stringing his flaccid nerves, so as there subists, in point of improvement by exercise, an undoubted analogy between the mind and body, it is possible, that this exertion of imagination may strengthen every other power of the mind, and lend new vigour to the judgement itself. Whether or not these conclusions be granted in their full extent, it is sufficient for my present purpose, if it be allowed, (as I think it must) that there

* I know not if any poet has made this confession except Horace and Cowper, twoaut hors, whose genius is equalled only by their candour.

——Ego apis matinæ
More modoque
Grata carpentis thyma *per laborem*
Plurimum, operosa parvus. Carmina Fingo. O. 2. L. 4.

And to the same purpose, Cowper:

They best can tell a poet's worth,
Though oft themselves have known,
The pangs of a poetic birth
By labours of their own.——*Verses to Dr Darwin.*

there is no absurdity in supposing a very considerable degree both of vivacity and clearness of conception to be united in the same mind.

2. Many instances may be produced of authors, who in different compositions have vindicated their claim to all the requisites both of the philosopher and the poet. The celebrated philosopher of Ferney was unquestionably the most admired tragic poet of the last age. The philosophical works of this extraordinary man, display an acuteness, a subtlety, and a force of reasoning, which, while they command our unqualified admiration, affect us with the deeper regret, that his transcendent talents were so frequently devoted to objects, at once dishonourable to himself and destructive of human happiness. His dramatic works, on the other hand, are distinguished by the virtue of the moralist, and glow with the fire of the poet. They exhibit a correctness of taste, a tenderness of sentiment, and a delicacy of language which have carried the tragedy of France perhaps to ultimate perfection; and constitute a model of excellence which future poets will in vain attempt to surpass. Our applauded countryman Dr Beattie is another unequivocal instance of the union of those talents which have sometimes been considered as so opposite and incompatible. To all who relish the charms of the minstrel, any eulogium on his poetical powers will be totally unnecessary; nor are the manly simplicity, the chaste ornaments and the picturesque description which distinguish that charming performance, more remarkable than the profundity, the ingenuity, and the elegance, of all his philosophical writings. These obvious and unquestionable examples appear sufficient to prove, that the qualifications of the philosopher and the poet are by no means incompatible with each other, and that an author may share the laurel of Apollo, without forfeiting his claim to the honours of science.

3. There is a particular class of authors who have exhibited in the same composition all the qualifications both of philosophers and poets. Their talents are neither strictly poetical nor strictly philosophical, but something compounded of both. To the soundness and penetration of intellect, they have superadded the rich colouring of luxuriant imagination; and truth has issued from the mouth of the philosopher, embellished by the graces of poetry, and sometimes attired in her garb.

Such authors have passed under various denominations, and may be found in almost every department of literature. Some have been professed philosophers, such as Buffon and Rousseau. A few have been critics, among whom Dr Johnson is entitled to the highest place. Others have been orators, such as Demosthenes, Cicero, and Masillon; one has been a historian, Gibbon; while several have been professed poets, such as Lucretius, Darwin, and Akenside.

With regard to the first of these authors*, Buffon, it is evident, that unless his genius had partaken of the poetical

* "L' illustre auteur de l' histoire naturelle, says a celebrated writer, a prouvé qu'un seul homme peut reunir a des vastes connoissances une imagination brillante, une sensibilite vive et profonde; et l' art enchanteur de peindre avec une egale superiorite les objets touchans, les scenes imposantes et majestueuses, les tableaux sombres et terribles. Ou trouve dans son ouvrage les modeles les plus parfaits de tous les differens genres de style et d' eloquence; *tour a tour poete, peintre, metaphysicien profond, philosophe sublime, l' auteur sait prendre tous les*

poetical as well as the philosophical cast, he could neither have indulged in those sublime excursions of imagination, nor acquired that unequalled command of figurative language, which render his work so universally attractive. Such indeed was the ardour of his glowing imagination, and the dazzling brilliancy of the theories which it delighted to form, that even his own vigorous mind, richly gifted as it was by nature, and enlarged by unbounded knowledge, was unable to resist their allurements or to detect their errors. The extravagance of his doctrines was sometimes lost in their splendour, and the defects of his systems were too often concealed by the colourings of his fancy. To whatever magnitude these blemishes have swelled, they are certainly compensated by those inimitable beauties of which they are only the excesses; and unless the speculations of that philosopher had been uttered by a voice emulating the syren tongue of poetry, the world would never have been gratified by "that majestic eloquence which destined Buffon to be the historian of nature."

When a person of taste has read the most admired productions of Johnson, Buffon, and Rousseau, I believe he would have some hesitation in affirming, that the pleasure which he derived from the perusal was much inferior either in point of duration or intensity, to that which he ever experienced from the most sublime or pathetic poetry. The appearance in any country of such authors, as can bestow upon prose the most winning graces of poetry, and gratify the intellect at the same time that they captivate the ear and delight the imagination, is a certain proof, that the literature of that country has arrived at perfection, and perhaps the state of society at ultimate refinement. The history of past ages would lead us to suspect, that when a country has arrived at this degree of literary and political prosperity, it has attained to a pitch of glory from which it must gradually return in a contrary progress to the opposite extreme. Such has been the fate of the two most celebrated nations which the world has yet beheld; and such, it has been alledged, may be the destiny of our own. The degeneracy of taste, it is perhaps impossible in any country altogether to prevent; and there are strong reasons for believing, that this melancholy progress has already commenced in Britain: but with regard to the political welfare of our nation, there are circumstances in the situation of Europe peculiar to modern times, as well as features in the character of Britain peculiar to herself, which while they have enabled her to equal the fame of Greece and Rome, will in all probability screen her from their melancholy fate.

But to return from this digression, let us consider the qualifications of the orator, upon which little is necessary to be said. The first part of his duty is to convince the understandings of his hearers. For this purpose, it is obvious that he must possess ingenuity and penetration, a sound judgment, and a power of discerning the minute differences of things. So far his talents are strictly philosophical; for what else are the constituents of philosophical genius? This opinion receives additional confirmation from the reflexion that

les tons; aussi souple qu' etendu, son genie embarasse tout, se plie a tout; avec la meme facilite, il saisit les trait delicats de petits details, et concoit l' ensemble du plan le plus vaste: aucun ecrivain Francois n'a mieux connu sa langue, ne joignit taut d' exactitude a taut d' elegance, et ne fut a la fois aussi correct et aussi brillant."

that one of the most illustrious orators who ever appeared, is scarcely less celebrated for his philosophical treatises, than for his professional orations. The second part of the orator's duty consists in moving the hearts and interesting the passions of his audience. This can be effectually done only by a man of nice sensibility and a glowing imagination. It is only by placing things before them in a strong, lively, and affecting point of view, that he can fill them alternately with joy, with terror, and admiration. It is only thus that the orator can effect the exculpation of injured innocence, inspire his countrymen with a becoming abhorrence of the sanguinary traitor, or rouse their indignation, either against the insidious designs of domestic treason or the open assaults of foreign hostility. This combination of philosophical and poetical talents upon the supposition, that the more an author has of the one, in the same proportion he must be destitute of the other, is certainly altogether impossible; and yet unquestionably it must have formed a principal part of that eloquence, which humbled the dignity of Cæsar, while it repressed the effrontery of Cataline. Nor will it be denied, that that man must have been possessed of both philosophical and poetical powers, whose eloquence was able to stem the combined torrents of internal disaffection and foreign hostility; which shook the throne of the ambitious Philip, while it roused the energies of the dispirited Athenians.

A person may have a taste both for philosophy and poetry without possessing a genius for either; but a genius for philosophy always presupposes a taste for it, and a genius for poetry has a like comprehensive signification. A genius for philosophy has in a few rare instances been coupled with a genius for poetry; a taste for poetry has in a still greater number embellished and adorned a philosophical genius; and a genius for poetry seems to be seldom, if ever, disunited from a taste for philosophy.

The success of a few late philosophers, who to the most splendid scientific abilities have added a taste for poetry and the fine arts, commonly occasions a regret, that the same qualifications had not been possessed by the earlier patrons of science: and that some of these should have considered the cultivation of taste as inconsistent with the dignity of science, and hostile to that serenity which ought ever to distinguish the unruffled mind of a philosopher. The chief difference between the peculiar rewards of the philosopher and poet appears in what may be termed their *popularity*; and in the limits which bound the reputation of each. The most celebrated poets are read and admired by all who make any pretensions to literary taste; the most celebrated philosophers are relished only by a few, who are favoured at once with the ability to understand and the leisure to study their abstracted speculations. In proportion therefore as philosophy in its external garb becomes more assimilated to poetry, and the frigidity and uncouthness of the one is supplanted or at least diminished by the enthusiasm and the graces of the other, the speculations of science must borrow the attractions of poetry, and have a much wider circulation among all ranks and conditions of men.

Had philosophers always been impressed with a due conviction of the importance attached to the reasonable cultivation of taste, and the employment of a certain portion of their time in the study of the *Belles Lettres*, they would have entertained an opinion, which must have been attended with incalculable advantages both to themselves and their readers.

ders. To themselves, the benefits which would have resulted from it are obvious and certain. It would have soothed their way thro' the toilsome walks of abstract science, intermingled with flowers the thorns with which those paths are so thickly strewn, and afforded an useful and never-failing amusement during the hours of relaxation from severer studies. By the tendency of such pursuits to polish the style of all who engage in them, and to form insensibly a manly and engaging eloquence, they would have given to the speculations of philosophy such attractions as must have powerfully recommended them to the perusal of every class of readers; and induced many to become votaries of science, who would otherwise have been deterred by the harshness of her tone and the severity of her aspect. Had these sentiments always prevailed among philosophers, their writings would have been in a great measure divested of that gloom and austerity which in the opinion of some are necessary concomitants of science; and the works of * Locke, of Hobbes, and of Cudworth, might have possessed, in so far as was consistent with the literature of the age in which they lived, and the subjects on which they wrote, recommendations similar to the nervous elegance of Smith, the poetical sweetness of Beattie, or the philosophic purity and classical refinement of Stewart.

Historical View of the first Establishment of the ROMAN CATHOLIC *Religion,*

(*Concluded from p.* 260.)

3. I Shall now proceed to consider the nature of the ecclesiastical government when reduced to a system, with some other causes that strengthened its power. It would be altogether unentertaining to give a long and minute description of this wonderful Colossus, which has so long bestrid the world, but which has now fallen from its lofty height, and lies almost in ruins. Its power arose at first from a coincidence of circumstances, which gradually raised the bishop of Rome above his brethren, to that enormous height, whence he looked down upon the prostrate world, which bowed, in silent subjection at his feet. Ambition was a weed of quick and early vegetation in the church; it is congenial to every soil, and branches out in all directions; and the passions of men in every age vary, as the state of civilization or barbarism present objects on which to employ their time and their powers. During the progress of the civilization, when the faculties of the mind are gradually enlarging, and slowly dissipating those clouds of error which formerly hung over them, mankind are less liable to be deceived, especially as their curiosity is generally excited to examine and decide for themselves, and the detection of one deceit proves the ruin of the whole. But the reverse takes place when barbarism succeeds civilization, it is like the doating, delirious state of old age, when the vigour of youth and manhood is spent, and but a faint recollection of past events survives. Mankind passively submit to the yoke of superstition and slavery, till their intolerable

* The Biographer of Mr Locke observes, "that he had too little esteem for "the Poets to spend much time in reading them, or to take much pains in imitating them."

able weight rouses the dormant powers, which again burst forth in all the vigour of youth.

Many and various were the arts employed to deceive and allure the multitude in the first outset of papal ambition: if Pisistratus could impose upon the Athenians a woman above the ordinary height of her sex, for the goddess Minerva, still more glaring deceptions were practised upon the Christians, by the lying wonders and infallible decrees of the Roman Pontiffs. Rome has ever been formidable to the world. Her Cæsars carried ruin and devastation over distant lands, and laid many a fair city, many a fertile field in ruins and desolation: her bishops have ransacked the earth to make proselytes, they have darkened by their extensive shade the face of the meridian sun, they have shut upon the world the gates of heaven, and opened for their reception the dungeons of hell. As most of them were raised to the papal throne either in the full vigour of their intellectual faculties, or after they had been matured by experience; as they knew that their dominion could be of no long duration, they hastened to distinguish their reign by some new triumph to the church. But the power of the Popes stood upon a tottering basis, until the time of Gregory 7th. That enterprizing and ambitious pontiff laboured with incessant zeal to reduce the thrones of Europe under his dominion. By the most artful policy, and rigid show of virtue, by his invincible firmness and enterprizing genius, he extended his power over the most distant kingdoms, and involved Europe in scenes of bloodshed, the effects of his inordinate ambition.

The imprudent concessions of the Countess Matilda increased the temporal dominions of the Popes, while they extended with various success their spiritual power. In those days of anarchy and misrule, amidst the shipwreck of nations and the ruin of states which succeeded each other in rapid succession, they and they alone were enriched. Upon the ruins of ancient Rome they erected a temporal throne. Upon the broad basis of superstition they raised a splendid temple, themselves the altar, the oracle, and the God. Their ambitious attempts were seconded and justified by the scandalous adulation of some mercenary prelates, who exalted the dignity and prerogatives of the apostolic see in the most pompous and extravagant terms.

These prelates discovered that their own rise or fall was involved in the success or ruin of the spiritual head: and during those times of ignorance and perpetual war, when the rights of mankind were but little understood, and obsolete, or new claims, which were never before heard of, advanced with confidence, they began to lay claim to dignities as the privileges of their order; and thus raised themselves to an equality with the princes of the Empire. From the close of the 9th and beginning of the 10th century, the rise of this princely dominion may be traced. Shall I compare it to a perennial spring that increases the farther it recedes from its source? No, for the waters of the fountain fructify the earth, and produce something advantageous to man. But I will compare it to a roaring torrent, which increases by the influx of tributary streams, and carries every thing before it till it reaches the vast abyss. Those marks of dignity, which distinguish royalty and princely authority, were usurped by the ecclesiastics; the churches were ruled by mitred bishops and abbots, and the triple tiara graced the brow of the sovereign pontiff. He obtained the character of supreme legislator of the church; he acquired an unlimited jurisdiction over all synods and councils whether general or provincial, and had the sole distribution

bution of all ecclesiastical honours and benefices.

The controversies which took place between the emperors of Germany and the Kings of England with the Popes, shew how great an ascendancy they had gained over them, by the influence of superstition. Not all the strength of absolute power could turn the minds of the people from the dread of an offended Pope, even when it would have been their interest to have espoused the cause of their injured rulers. They were awed into subjection by the worst of all terrors, the thunders of the Vatican, which shook the astonished nations, but were only formidable to them by their own fears. Whenever a kingdom became refractory, the sentence of excommunication was fulminated against it, by which it was deprived of all external exercise of its religion. "The execution of it was calculated to strike the senses in the highest degree, and to operate with irresistable force on the superstitious minds of the people. The dead were not interred in consecrated ground, and their obsequies were not attended with prayer or any hallowed ceremony. Marriage was celebrated in church yards; and that every action of life might bear the marks of that dreadful situation, the people were prohibited the use of meat, as in lent, or times of the highest penance, were debarred from all pleasures and entertainments, and forbidden to salute each other, or show their beads." The whole of this dreadful ceremony was calculated to impress terror and unusual fear upon the mind; by putting an entire stop to the usual business and customs of mankind, which are rooted in the nature of the vulgar, and by the threatnings of divine vengeance, which the silence and expectation of such a situation rendered more awful. The deepest cunning, which long experience and constant attention to the dispositions of mankind had taught ecclesiastics, appeared in the execution of these anathemas. Every succeeding sentence was more severe than the preceding, till the last dreadful fulmination consigned both soul and body to hell.

The election of a pontiff was at first invested in the clergy of every rank, and the people; but as frequent disorders and schisms were the consequences of this general power, the nomination of a pope was intrusted to the cardinals alone by Alexander III. They were inferior to his holiness only in point of dignity; and their number, which was at first inconsiderable, was finally limited to seventy-two, the number of our Saviour's disciples. In the papal hierarchy the chain of dependence was gradual; there was a coincidence of interest which strengthened the union, and a connivance at enormities by the consciousness of general depravity. Instead of being the guides of mankind, and exhibiting patterns of a blamelesss life; they were distinguished for their extreme profligacy, and utter contempt of all decency and virtue. In order that their reign might be undisturbed, they employed engines of tyranny to terrify the weak, to subdue the stubborn, and to bend the inflexible under their iron power. Mortifications were imposed upon those who erred: indulgencies were granted to those who repented, and the rites of absolution in a few moments took off the burden of guilt from the mind.

But while the Roman Pontiffs swayed the sceptre of Europe, they trembled for their own lives amidst the inhabitants of Rome; that factious and restless people disturbed their repose, when they refused to gratify their vanity, and banished, or put to death those tyrants at whose mandate the remote nations of Europe trembled. The casual incidents of flight and deposition might have taught

taught the world, that the spiritual thunders of the Vatican were founded on the force of opinion, and when that opinion is supplanted by reason or passion, the sound may idly waste itself in the air. An eminent writer has said, "That though the name and authority of the court of Rome were so terrible in the remote countries of Europe, which were sunk in profound ignorance, and were entirely unacquainted with its character and conduct, the Pope was so little revered at home, that his inveterate enemies surrounded the gates of Rome itself, and even controlled his government in that city; and the ambassadors, who, from a distant extremity of Europe, carried to him the humble, or rather abject submission of the greatest potentate of the age, found the utmost difficulty to make their way to him, and to throw themselves at his feet." The little learning which had escaped the wreck of time and the ravages and ignorance of the barbarians was in their hands. They employed it, however, not in improving their own minds or enlightening the vulgar, but in the endless subtilties of metaphysical and theological disquisitions, which embarrass the reasoning faculties, and in the hands of superstitious enthusiasts, become the fruitful sources of the wildest reveries and most extravagant opinions. "Some faint glimmerings of common sense might pierce through the thick cloud of ignorance, or, what was worse, the illusions of perverted science which had blotted out the sun, and enveloped the face of nature. Folly was possessed of all the schools, as well as all the churches, and her votaries assumed the garb of philosophers, together with the ensigns of spiritual dignities."

We are told by Livy, that when Annibal hung upon the borders of Italy, and threatened Rome herself, various prodigies appeared; among others, he mentions one of an extraordinary nature, "*Gallenam in marem, gallum in feminam sese vertisse.*" The honest people and the senators were fools enough to give credit to such stories, and appointed fasts and expiations to appease the offended Deities; but these prodigies seldom were talked of among the antient Romans, and only occasioned a temporary impulse of superstitious fear when they were threatened with any extraordinary danger. Though they had no guide to lead them from these reveries to a sound understanding of the nature and attributes of the Deity, yet their strong good sense and acuteness of mind, often penetrated through the gloom, and dispelled the darkness of an illiberal superstition. But the Catholic world were continually in alarm; in every place they supposed themselves surrounded by the demons of darkness, who could only be opposed by certain charms or incantations, or by invoking the powerful protection of some favourite saint; even the most trivial circumstance disturbed their repose, and they kept their minds continually on the watch to obtain new subjects of disquietude.

Upon a review of the whole, after the very imperfect sketch I have drawn, it will appear, that the usurpations of the bishops of Rome, proceeded gradually from the time of Constantine until the age of Charles the Great of France, when he became a temporal prince; that the origin of monachism, may be dated from the same period, and that it spread wide over all the Christian world, while the worship of saints and martyrs, of relics, and other sacrilegious practices, engrossed the attention of mankind; and, lastly, That the temporal and spiritual dominion of the Popes was established by the most impudent encroachments, by the boldest effrontery, and by the united exertions of every churchman. The

review

review of this dark period appears to me a blank, or a blot, in the annals of time. No where were the useful arts practised or patronized; philosophy and reason slumbered under the throne of superstition, and every succeeding age added new fetters to enslave the passive mind. The last ages of the republic, and the first of the Cæsars and Antonines, were distinguished for the triumph of reason, and the gospel, over ignorance and superstition. Soon after they suffered a long eclipse; their virgin purity was soon stained; and, like the abandoned prostitute, they lost all sense of modesty and shame, threw off every restraint, and indulged in the wildest excesses. We must not, however, suppose that the revolutions of the times had no influence upon the decay of reason and religion; on the contrary, their influence was great. Rome and Italy became the prey of ignorant barbarians, who fell in their turn before other invaders; and the successive swarms, which overspread the empire, depopulated the countries through which they passed, and either insensibly or rapidly changed the manners and customs of the people among whom they remained. Men's minds were alarmed at the frequent recurrence of such calamities, they had recourse to every thing which could ward off the danger, and found, in the unfathomable mysteries of superstition, a pillow of repose, of hope, and of confidence. Every one who is acquainted with the operations of the human mind, knows its extreme propensity to every thing wonderful and mysterious, when unenlightened by reason and religion, while, on the contrary, it climbs with tardy steps the steep hill of truth and of science: this propensity was encreased by new and wonderful appearances, and mankind sat down, content with their ignorance, content with their servility, and hopeless of better times.

D.

Remarks *made in a* Tour *thro' some of the* Shetland Islands *in* 1804.

(*Continued from p.* 269.)

Aug 24. 1804. A Vessel in Kirkwall roads happened at this time to be ready to sail for Shetland; and the captain understanding, by my friends, my desire to visit that remote part of the empire, kindly offered me a passage. We weighed anchor in the afternoon, and got under way with a gentle breeze: next morning we were off Papa Westra, and in sight of the headland of that island, called the Moul-head. The sailors being provided with strong lines, we here *lay to*, and fished for cod and haddock. So abundant were these fishes in this place, that in an hour our deck was strewed with about fifty fine firm cod-fish, besides some haddocks of a large size. This was not two miles distant from Papa Westra; yet we saw no boat engaged in this rich fishery! How supine is such conduct!—In the evening we passed North Ronaldsha light, which is very elevated; the tower rising, I believe, about seventy feet.

Aug. 26.—Early in the morning I found that we were off Noness Head in Shetland, having had a favourable breeze thro' the night. The general aspect of the country, as we coasted along towards Lerwick, was hilly, bleak, and steril. At 9, we anchored in Brassay Sound, opposite to Lerwick. It being Sunday, the colours were displayed from Fort Charlotte, a fortress situated to the north of the town. We had scarcely landed, when some of the inhabitants

tants asked of me, whether we were direct from *Scotland?*—a question that rather surprized me, as implying that the Shetland islands themselves did not constitute a part of that country. In Lerwick there is only one established church, and there are no dissenters. The church appeared to be well attended, and the people in general were very neatly dressed.

The town of Lerwick consists of one principal street next the quay, with several lanes branching off. No regularity has been observed, in former times, in the position of the houses, some of which project almost quite across the street. The general appearance of the town has of late years been much improved by several handsome houses built in the modern style. The town is computed to contain about 1000 inhabitants. Fort Charlotte is a great ornament to it. Several large cannon command the harbour and protect the town. This fortress is said to have been originally erected during the protectorate of Cromwell: it was completely repaired, by order of Government, in 1781, and named Fort Charlotte, after our gracious queen. At present it is garrisoned by a part of the 6th Royal Garrison Battalion.

Upon a little island, in the midst of a fresh water lake, about a mile west from Lerwick, are situated the remains of a Pictish fort, in a better state of preservation than many others which we saw in Shetland. It consists of a thick circular wall inclosing an area of about thirty feet in diameter. In the wall itself, which is about twelve feet thick, are several oblong recesses or little chambers, ten or twelve feet in length, by three in width. No kind of cement or mortar appears to have been employed in these rude structures. All around the banks of this lake I found abundance of a dwarf variety of Jasione montana (hairy sheeps scabious,) both with white and blue flowers. This is by no means a plant generally found in Scotland: but here it grows abundantly on all the dry turfs which form around half sunk stones, or which project on grassy banks. Upon this little lake, one of the officers from Fort Charlotte, about this time, shot a truly northern bird, the red throated diver (colymbus septentrionalis,) which was politely presented to me. The Zetlanders name it the rain-goose, its shrill and harsh call, as it flies along, being thought to prognosticate rain*.

Near Fort Charlotte there is a quarry of very hard micaceous breccia, in which vast numbers of large water worn nodules of red granite, (some of them most exactly resembling the common round Dutch cheeses,) are compactly imbedded. About half a mile south from Lerwick, below a projecting eminence called the Knab†, at the entrance of Brassay Sound, several thick strata of sandstone have been exposed to view by the action of the sea. Imbedded in the upper strata of this sandstone, I observed a few scattered nodules of the same kind of granite. The lower and whiter strata of this sandstone, are *free*, or may be hewn in any direction, and are therefore quarried for the new buildings in Lerwick. On the grassy banks of the

* The *black* throated diver is generally seen in company with the *red*, and is probably only the female? They breed in Shetland.

† From Fort Charlotte to this point called the Knab, Government has caused a road to be made, by means of which cannons could be brought hither in the course of a few minutes; and here they would effectually command the southern entrance of Brassay Sound, at least against an enemy's cruizer or privateer.

the Knab, scilla verna (vernal squill) grows in vast profusion *.

The hills around Lerwick have a gloomy, barren look, being but thinly clad with stunted heath, and many naked rocks appearing. The soil is a wet peat-turf, unfavourable to the vegetation of the better kinds of grasses, and yielding only a few of the coarser sorts, mixed with carices and dwarfish rushes. There are two chalybeate springs in the neighbourhood of the town; one somewhat stronger than the other, but neither highly impregnated.

At Lerwick there is a straw-plaiting manufactory, but not on so extensive a scale as that at Kirkwall. When we visited it, more than fifty girls were at work, in two rooms, which however were rather crowded. They receive 1d. per yard, and can make from 12 to 16 or even 20 yards a-day. This manufactory is carried on by a London company. Before its introduction, there was no kind of manufacture in Lerwick, in which young women could advantageously exert their industry,—the knitting of stockings being only a waste of time.

Mackerel were at this time very common at Lerwick, and were sold very cheap. Eggs were brought aboard to us in Lerwick roads at 2d. a-dozen; but they were of a small size, even the poultry partaking of the diminutive size of all the domestic animals of Shetland.

At Lerwick, and indeed throughout Shetland, Dutch and Danish coins are more common than British. A *stuer*, or stiver, (a small piece of base metal silvered over,) passes in circulation for one penny; the Danish 6 skilling passes for 5d. &c.

Aug. 27.—We visited Brassa island, which lies immediately over-against Lerwick. All along the shore of this island, sea-beet (Beta maritima) grows naturally in great plenty; together with Danish scurvy-grass (cochlearia Danica.) Intermixed with these, we observed many strong stems of wheat and of white oats, which had sprung from seeds accidentally cast ashore. In a gentleman's garden here, too, we observed that several shewy annuals had reached perfection in the open border, particularly convolvulus tricolor (coloured bindweed,) and crepis rubra (red hawk's-beard.) Jasione montana and scilla verna are very common natives of this island. Near the church of Brassay are situated the quarries which supply the town of Lerwick with slates. These quarries consist of beds of laminar micaceous shistus. Such slates may make a very secure roof; but it must also of necessity be a heavy one. Great quantities of black compact peats are dug from the mosses of Brassay, and sold to the inhabitants of Lerwick.

This island forms the eastern protection of Brassay Sound, the safe and commodious harbour or road-stead of Lerwick, where (it is believed) the whole British navy might ride in safety. Brassay Sound is the resort, in time of peace, of several hundred Dutch busses, which annually rendezvous here, at the beginning of June, preparatory to the herring fishery.

On the 28th of August we left Brassay Sound, in a large open boat, for Unst, the most northerly of the Shetland islands. In passing out by the north entrance of the sound, the site of the Unicorn rock was pointed out to us; but it was at this time covered by the sea †.

While

* I at this time gathered some of the ripe *seeds*, which have now vegetated in one of the stoves of the Botanic Garden, Edinburgh. I also brought home some of the bulbs, which have grown freely. (*April* 1805.)

† When Bothwell was driven to extremities, he (as is well known) commenced pirate. Kirkaldy of Grange was sent in pursuit of him, in a vessel called the Uni-

While we darted along with a favourable breeze, our boat's-crew amused themselves with catching mackerel, which swim faster than any other small fish, and may therefore be caught while a boat is running at the rate of seven or eight *knots* an hour*. A pretty heavy weight is, in such circumstances, required to sink the lines to a proper depth. The bait at first employed, on this occasion, was a bit of red woollen-cloth! after which the *heart* of the mackerel itself was preferred.

In the middle of the day we landed at Gossabrugh, in the island of Yell, and had some of our new-caught mackerel prepared for dinner. The fields here were so small in dimensions, that they appeared to us like little garden patches. Instead of a plough, a coarse kind of awkward spade is employed. As the men dig the fields with this spade; the women and children, we were told, drag the harrows!—Only the avena strigosa, or black oat, is here cultivated; and it is mixed with a good deal of the tall oat-grass (Avena fatua) with hygrometric awns. The white oat of the south (Avena sativa) is scarcely known. Bear, or *bigg*, is also raised here, in considerable quantity. We saw some promising lazy-bed potatoes; only too closely planted. During our short stay at this spot, I made a hurried visit to a heathy eminence in the neighbourhood. The ground was very wet and boggy, which, I believe, is the case with a great proportion of the pasture-ground of Yell. Most of the little pools shewed a scum of the oxyd of iron; and bog-iron-ore, of different degrees of consistence, is here a common production. Narthecium ossifragum (bastard asphodel:) Pinguicula vulgaris (butterwort or *sheep-rot*;) and pedicularis palustris (marsh lousewort,) were indeed too common. Melica coerulea (purple melic;) Nardus stricta (heath matweed;) and Festuca vivipara (viviparous sheeps fescue,) were the principal grasses; together with carices recurva, distans, panicea, &c. and some junci or rushes. To a mixture of all these, when heath is absent, the natives give the name of *lubba*. The water-worn stones on the shore were chiefly of micaceous shistus, sometimes with the remains of small garnets; with asbestinite, serpentine, &c.

We reached Uyea Sound, in the island of Unst, early in the evening. Most of the rocks in this district of Unst are of the magnesian kind†. The serpentine is finely variegated; and

Unicorn. While Kirkaldy entered Brassay Sound by the south, Bothwell narrowly escaped by sailing out at the north entrance. Bothwell's pilots, it is said, had the cunning to sail very close by a sunk rock, with which they were familiar; thus leading their pursuers, who, in the hurry of pursuit, would naturally follow their track, to a hazard which actually proved fatal to them, and which ensured the escape of the unhappy fugitive. Since that day, this rock has received the name of *the Unicorn*. This tradition is uniform and general, and may (I believe) be depended on.

* In fact mackerel are caught with most success in a moderate breeze: they always swim fast; and being rather a shy fish, the rapid motion of the bait is often useful in deceiving them and enticing them to hazard a bite. A moderate breeze is therefore sometimes termed a *mackerel gale*. Dr Johnson, *in verbo*, supposes that a mackerel-gale means a "strong breeze," such as fishmongers would wish to convey the mackerel-sloops speedily to market: but the phrase is understood, where no such motive can possibly come into consideration.

† The whole of the Shetland Islands are much more interesting to the mineralogist than those of Orkney. The few detached notices here given, are extracted from notes taken on the spot. For full information, especially with regard to the geognostic situation of the different minerals, I beg leave, once for all, to refer

to

and its fresh fracture possesses such lustre, that the inhabitants call it jasper. The exterior of the rocks, however, is of a dull rusty hue, being altered or partly decomposed by the action of the weather. Pieces of pure white steatite are frequently found on the shore: these, I believe, the natives call *clewmul*, and employ for drawing white lines on cloth or wood.—Chlorite, imbedded in large masses of quartz, is also very common on the shore. A little way east from Uyea, great rocks of micaceous shistus appear, which are sometimes quarried for building, especially for lintel-stones. Here a rude pillar of this shistus, rising about twelve feet from the ground, has, in former days, been erected, probably as a landmark to vessels entering the harbour or road-stead of Uyea. In this remote and dreary country, we were somewhat surprized to find several handsome modern houses, with small gardens, gravel-walks, &c. in a neat style. The principal of these is Belmont, the seat of Mr Mowat of Garth *.

In the kitchen-gardens here, a remarkable variety of the artichoke is cultivated. It has very small heads, scarcely larger than those of the common spear thistle. The inhabitants think it more hardy than the large-headed kind, and also superior in flavour.

In the neighbourhood of Belmont I had an opportunity of viewing a Shetland water-mill. It was truly an awkward piece of machinery. The wheel (a very trifling one) was placed horizontally instead of vertically; consequently it could do but little work. The millstone was of micaceous shistus.

The gables of the cottages here, were, at this season, hung round with hundreds of small coalfish, called *piltocks*, strung upon spits, and exposed to dry, without salt.

Never was I more surprized or shocked than to learn that there was *no school* in the whole island of Unst! The instruction of hundreds of children is thus in a great measure neglected; many of the parents being utterly incapable of communicating even the knowledge of alphabetic letters to their children. That an island of above twenty miles in circumference, and containing about 2000

to Professor Jameson's excellent Mineralogical Description of these Islands, 1 vol. 8vo. 1798.

* The remote situation of the Shetland Islands, and the little intercourse they have, especially during winter, with the mother country, frequently render the inhabitants strangers for many weeks to the greatest national occurrences. It has often been alleged that the Revolution of 1688 was not known in Shetland for six months after it happened. Thus Martin (Appendix to Hist. of Isles, 1703) says: The Shetlanders "had no account of the Prince of Orange's late landing in "England, coronation, &c. until a fisherman happened to land in these isles in "May following; and *he* was not believed, but indicted for high treason, for "spreading such news." But from an old letter in possession of Mr Mowat of Belmont, it is proved, that this common report is without foundation, or at least is greatly exaggerated: for it hence appears, that *before* the 15th of December 1688, the report of the Prince of Orange's landing in England had accidentally reached Unst, the most northerly of the islands,—though the fact of a Revolution having been effected was not, probably, ascertained for some considerable time after. Having, with Mr Mowat's permission, copied part of this letter, I shall give the exact words: "15th Dec. 1688.—I can give no account of news, save only that "the skipper of the wreckt ship confirms the former report of the Prince of Or-"ange his landing in England with an considerable number of men, bot upon what "pretence I cannot condishend. (Signed) And. Mowat". (Addressed) "To "the much honoured George Cheyne off Eslamouth."

The Prince landed at Torbay on the 5th of November 1688.

2000 inhabitants, should be destitute of a *parochial* school, is to me an inexplicable circumstance.

Upon careful inquiry we learned that the Norwegian language is now finally extinct in Unst, where it subsisted longer than in any of the other islands: for we were repeatedly assured, that, not farther back than thirty years ago, there were "several old people that spoke the "*Norns*," i. e. the Norse, or Norwegian tongue.

Eagles, or *erns*, (falco albicilla, and falco ossifragus) reside on the hills and bold sea-precipices of Unst. The *tammerie* or puffin, and *lyre* or shearwater, breed here. The *calloo* (anas acuta)—named from its evening call, which resembles the sound *calloo, calloo*,—arrives from the arctic regions in autumn, and spends the winter in Unst. Great flocks of wild swans come at the same time; but these generally migrate farther south.

It is curious that the common house mouse has not yet found access to the island of Unst. The bat is equally unknown. The untravelled natives of Uyea had never seen either frogs or toads, and indeed had no idea of the appearance or nature of those animals.

After spending some days in this extreme northern island of the British dominions, we again sailed to the southward. In the evening, after much tossing with a contrary wind, we landed in Yell, at a fine arm of the sea called Brough Voe. We viewed the *Pecht's Brough*, or little circular fort, which has given name to the place. It is of the same dimensions and construction with many other *broughs* or *pecht's* forts in Shetland. Indeed these *broughs* seem to have communicated by signals with each other; the site of one *brough* being uniformly seen from that of some other. A gentleman * of our party here procured a kind of rude stone bason, which was, some years ago, found among the rubbish in the Pecht's fort. It is shaped like a large soup dish, or *tureen*, having two hollows for handles. Perhaps it is an old stone *quern*, or vessel in which grain used to be ground with a pestle.

Early next morning (Sept. 1.) we again set sail, and, wafted by a fair breeze, before mid-day reached Lerwick roads, where we now found his Majesty's frigate La Chiffonne lying at anchor.

(To be continued.)

Letters on Poetry, by the Ettrick Shepherd.

To the Editor.

SIR,

THE following is the literal copy of a letter which I received from my friend James Hogg, better known by the appellation of *the Ettrick Shepherd*: if you think it suits your Miscellany, I have more of them on the same subject which are at your service. I am, Yours, &c.

S. L.

Dear Friend,

"I received yours, and am very happy at hearing you are all in good health.

* The same gentleman received a present, in Shetland, of a kind of stone knife, or cutting instrument, which was found in clearing away part of a *pecht's-house*. This knife is formed of a thin piece of spoted greenish steatite, of considerable induration. Both it, and the stone bason, have been deposited in the museum of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

health. You say that I have made you so much in love with natural productions, that you are apt to admire them in whatever shape they appear; but that you are suspicious of sometimes mistaking works to be of that class which are only affected, and that at these times you frequently take a temporary distaste at the whole, preferring these that abound with substantial and solid reasoning. You are always too much of a philosopher for me, Sandy; and upon the whole I cannot blame your taste, as the authors who excel most in natural descriptions are commonly better calculated to please than to edify. I must however remind you, that an author may convey very solid and consummate information in sentiments and style the most natural and easy. It is impossible for me to lay you down an invariable rule, whereby to distinguish a natural production from one that is only affected; and the more so, as the greatest adepts are most apt to dwindle at times into downright affectation, or to parade away into disgusting bombast: as witness Shakespeare and Sterne. I cannot now think of a better rule, nor a shorter one, than that line of Mr Pope's, in which he describes true wit. I am persuaded it may be more properly applied in distinguishing whether an essay, or any part of it, be really according to nature; for, if it be

"What oft' was thought, but ne'er so well express'd,"

you may look on it as one of the description you want. My brother hath a very singular way of distinguishing whether a literary production be of this class, which is so highly admired, and eagerly coveted by our swains at the present day. How think you he does? just reads them over, and then considers how they have pleased him; concluding, that a thing which is not natural can never be productive of any emotions of pleasing sensation: consequently, if they impell him involuntarily to claw his head or his elbow, he considers them as the most natural descriptions in the world. But with all deference to the opinion of so dear a friend, the rule, though simple, is liable to many objections, for it depends greatly on the state of your mind and feelings at the time, whether you are pleased with a book, or remain unaffected by it. I need not go farther than yourself for an appeal to the truth of this; for you told me, that once, when recovering from a wasting illness, you took up a book by accident, and read through the account of Capt. Cook's death; which made such an impression on your mind, that for a long time you could neither get night's rest nor day's ease. This I dare say you are sensible proceeded from nothing else than the debilitated state of your body at the time, whereby the mental feelings are notoriously influenced; for I am sure you have since read of many things more terrible, without being affected in the least after the book was out of your hand. I will mention another case, which, if it hath not already struck you, you will observe to be infallible; namely, that the contrasting of one subject with another quite different, works upon you to be much better pleased with them both, than you would have been with either if perused by itself. For a proof of this, on the morning after you receive this, put one of the volumes of Bell's British Theatre in your pocket; and as soon as you have settled the ewes, pull it out; draw your plaid over your head, and read a tragedy.—Well, suppose I do all that, James, what does it prove? It is ten to one if the tragedy hints at such a thing—very likely it will not; but give me time. I say, read a tragedy; then on the afternoon read another

ther tragedy, which you know, by the author's name prefixed, to be a much superior one, and I will wager sixpence that you shall be much less delighted with it than the former, and feel far less interested in the concerns of the different parties. But, on the contrary, if, instead of the latter, you read a comedy on the afternoon or next day, you shall find how you are tickled. For my own part, partial as I am to dramatic works, I have always found it difficult to read through a volume without taking them time about. If you ever be so situated that you can frequent the theatre, and see plays acted there, which you never have done yet, you will see the effects of this; by observing how little risibility a farce after a comedy excites, compared with one after a tragedy. But another reason why you should not estimate a book only in proportion as you feel interested at the time of reading it, is, that it may or may not treat of a subject to which your studies or researches are directed at the time. If by conversation, or reading, your curiosity is excited to the investigation of any particular subject, a book that tends to elucidate that subject will prove agreeable and pleasing to you at the time, although it should be only an insipid performance; and one that, at another time, would set you a-yawning on the fourth or fifth page. Another thing you will observe, that whenever your author loses sight of probability, his subjects loses a share in your interest. The feelings which it had attracted begin to evaporate by degrees, and not uncommonly take their leave altogether, or at least listlessly wander about within hearing, that, on the occurrence of any singular accident, they may be ready to stop and listen over the shoulder. This is strangely overlooked by many distinguished authors, both of plays, poems, novels, and sermons: as for history, it is a quite different thing; many occurrences taking place among nations and families which were not probable ever should have happened in the common course of things. This fault in authors is more owing to the method of telling a story, than the events treated of; for an instance of which I may refer you to Gulliver's travels, which, besides being an abominable story, is the most improbable one that ever the fancy of man suggested; yet where did you ever see a story told as like the truth? I have a great deal more to communicate to you on this subject; for, before I finish it, I intend comparing all the poets of our acquaintance, both of the past and present age. In the mean time, let me hear again from you, and believe me your most affectionate friend,

James Hogg.

The Traveller. No. III.

To W. Slaw.

SO you have taken it into your head, that *Time and Milestones*, acting in concert with conviviality and good cheer, will in the end scour from the mind every tender impression etched upon it by juvenile sensations, when the heart was flexible and tremblingly alive to the touches of nature. The rule may hold good in some instances, but I trust they are few in number. With infinite delight I look back to the morning of my life—to the days when you and I appointed the glen for our rendezvous, or met on the banks of the burn to *neive trouts*. Experience now tells me that I was happy, tho' perhaps I was not then altogether

so

so sensible of it—but we never know the want of the well till it is dried up. Often does imagination treat me with a glimpse of my long lost felicity in delusive dreams and delightful reveries. Our school-boy exploits illuminate many a gloomy hour, and as for our little wranglings and *baubee* squabbles, they excite a smile:

For mony a wearie tulzying bout
We twa langsyne ha'e had thegither,
An' mony a blae an' bluidy snout
We aften ga'e to ane anither.

But buffetings and unsavoury words tended to hammer off the rough and more prominent parts from our dispositions, polished our esteem, and consolidated our affections; for animosity, when taken in moderate doses, actually gives a flavour to happiness. I am fully persuaded, that the loves and affections which we imbibe in our youth, if once fairly rooted in the heart, never can be eradicated, especially when nourished in the bosom by a *classical education.* Now by a classical education, I mean not that species of literature vended at Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen, and St Andrews; no, no—I am far from being in love with their systems and methods of teaching. Sir John Gull begets a son, and in due time produces him to the world by the name of Samuel—packs him off to school in order that he may be fitted out for the Law, the Gospel, or the vending of Anderson's pills. Now, very likely Samuel was intended by Nature for a lamplighter, probably a sow-gelder; but all one for that—a mess of Mathematics, Latin, Logic, Hebrew, &c. is without any ceremony cramm'd down his throat, without enquiring whether he has got an appetite for such a dinner, or apartments properly adapted for its reception. Is not this mode of proceeding cruel, arbitrary, and unjust? indeed it is somewhat like the modern method of cramming turkies in order to make them fat, contrary to their inclinations. But the sequel is even more ridiculous—pushing poor Samuel into the world habited in a garb never intended for his wear, is not only a crying sin, but it actually is a gross burlesque on common sense. Hence it is that we find clergymen on the field of battle butchering their brethren of mankind, and generals mounting the pulpit sword in hand—hence it is that we find senators *screeding off* Morgan Ratler, and Paddy Whack at balls and weddings, and fiddlers haranguing in the assemblies of the people. In short, the whole system ought to be knocked on the head; because it has a natural tendency gradually to generate effeminacy, introduce foreign manners and customs amongst us, and consequently outlandish luxury and *landluppin* vice—God knows we have a pretty decent assortment of these accomplishments already, without being indebted to the ingenuity of our neighbours.—Hear my fervent prayer, thou self-existent author of existence! "May posterity never see the debilitated sons of Caledonia strolling from fair to fair, each with his puppet-show box on his back, little better than a parcel of *mutilated* Italians!" What! substitute insipid tea and carrion ragouts (for I can call them by no better name,) in room of healthsome *parritch* and invigorating *haggis!* Could I but wield the sword of a Wallace, and wag the tongue of an Erskine, the accursed thing should be put away from amongst us—(*Dinna burn your buckles before the souter brings hame your shoon.*)—The admonition is good, but I mean not to pull down colleges before I erect academies.—Erect academies! did I say?—they are already erected—they existed before Tradition was born; when Time himself was but a stripling, and in them our fathers were educated.—My brave, my renowned ancestors,—with your blood you purchased independence and generously ga'e it

to

to us, your offspring, for a patrimony. Should foreign or domestic robbers dare to bereave us of this our invaluable birthright, may your ghosts, as they hover round your graves on the heath, see every Scotsman rallying round the standards of freedom, firm and unshaken, like the rocks begirting his native land when assailed by the sons of the storm!

O Scotia! my auld, my honour'd mither,
Thou hast been blest wi' loving, faithfu' bairns,
Whan Independence, nurs'd upon thy hills,
Wi' parent care, an' pour'd into their hearts
The sacred love o' freedom. Bairns indeed—
What the verra name o' *Mither Yirth*
Raught down their tough claymores, their bugles blew,
An' dauntless trampit on the taes o' Death,
To stan' 'tween skaith an' thee. Fain wad my muse,
Descry thy warriors on the mountain's rang'd
Around their gallant chiefs, eager for battle;
Each brandishin' his doughty father's sword,
An' braggin' o' his scars. The pipers play,
An' sweetly wi' some warlike piebroch rouse
The native courage o' their country men.
An' when thy daurin' leaders bauldly cry,
"Forward, brave Scots, an' meet your country's foe,"
Fain wad she seen thy youthfu' warriers glow,
Wi' martial fire, an' breakin' frae their ranks
Rush down the heathy steep, in frantic rage,
Mawin' the heather wi' their broad claymores.
The battle o'er, the invading Reafin fled,
An' thy brave sons exclaim in extacy,
"Thae hills are still our ain;" then wad she sat
On some lane craig, to hear the manly plaint
O' dying minstrel singing on the heath
The sang o' death han't down to deathless Burns.

But to proceed with the subject in question without any more digressions, (for really ideas beget ideas in the same manner as Abraham begat Isaac, Isaac Jacob, and so on.)—I shall briefly give a description of the seminaries where I myself was educated, accompanied with a list of my tutors and instructors. Scotland, my lov'd, my native land, it is amongst thy wild glens, nodding with cowslip plumes, and garnished with fragrant birk, and branching hazel; it is amongst the hoary rocks of thy echoing lins, and upon the banks of thy rapid rivers where learning loves to stray.—He spreads his flowery mantle over the green meadows, and by the margin of every twisting stream;—he opens the volume of instruction amid thy woods and thy wilds, and lifts up his voice on every hill, and in every valley: all are invited to sit down and freely partake of his liberality, without money and without price. The favoured of thy sons and daughters treasure up his eloquence in their hearts, and practise it in their lives; but as for the herd, they look on, agitated by the same emotions which flowed from the chaunter of Robin Wightman's ass, in notes of exclamation when he contemplated the beauties of the rainbow.—It was amongst thy woodlands and thy copses, my dear Scotia, and upon the green margins of thy wood-skirted lakes, where the linnets and the robins first invited me to their little concerts,—I was charmed with the loveliness of their notes and enamoured with the simplicity of their lives. I cut me a whistle of birk on the banks of the Nith, and tried to imitate their artless strains: the notes were wild, but they delighted me—they were the chaste effusions of a warm heart—they were the sighs of the soul.

"Now

"Now wha are ye wi' ellwand shanks,
"Bannet blue, an' breeks o' plaiden;
"Stilten' high wi' stalwart step,
"Throu' my wawes o' siller wadin'?"

It's me, my lovely rowin' Nith,
Guid e'en, guid e'en, an eke how fen ye?
Steenin' on my trystein-tilts,
Throu' thy flood to meet wi' Jenny.

I am not ashamed to own the ways and means by which this warehouse of mine was filled with a stock of goods and chattels, neat as imported from the Indies of Nature, nor shall the sneer of fat stupidity tinge this cheek with a blush, though I was even to hear my little narrative ranted about the streets by Andrew Bishop the ballad-singer. "Ho, ho,—greased boots and hunted flaes for some master taylor employed by the students of our Universities—stitched together a parcel of Latin clouts, French patches, Greek patterns, Logic remnants, and Hebrew selvages—wrapped up in the many-coloured mantle, and set off full speed amongst the mills, the kilns, and the smithys—mounted the hearth or the vice-board, these celebrated rostrums where village orators harangue, and told the astonished audience that you was brought up at the feet of Gamaliel." My Lord, though liberally educated, my learning flowed not to me through any such channels. It is true, my instructors were men and women whom the pride of your Lordship's *Shangan* * often spurns from your presence, yet nevertheless they rank high in the estimation of the wise, because their doctrines are pregnant with instruction; and because their systems, though extremely simple, will remain when all others are swept away like stubble before the storm—"If so, be kind enough to make known the names and places of abode, to the end that such as seek after wisdom may know where to find her." That, my Lord, is utterly impossible, unless I am permitted to stand in my own original attitude--"Undoubtedly"—sing Cowdenknows, Chevy-chace, or Duncan Davison, whenever I may happen to be in the humour—"Well"—and in short tell my story in my own way, ornamented with such phrases and metaphors as, par hazard, may turn up trumps—"By all means—out with it, out with it."—Caledonia, thou most amiable, thou most affectionate of mothers, though thou givest not affluence to thy sons nor great *tochers* to thy daughters—though thou hast singled out poverty for my companion, and obscurity as the birthright of my race, yet will I make known thy kindness to me in the gates of Gath, and publish it in the streets of Ashkelon.—It was thou who told me that happiness is the only real wealth in this world which we rationally can enjoy, and that internal tranquillity is more valuable than great possessions,—that a clear conscience is the most convivial companion, and that there are domestics in the hut of drudgery who often pour a cordial into his cup, more grateful and more palatable to the soul than all the bumpers that ever sparkled on the table of pampered luxury.

Ye crabit cuifs, wha growl an' girn,
An' thraw your grunzies late an' air;
Bout whinstane times an' days o' airn,
O steik your gabs an' flyte nae mair.

But mak' auld Care, that surly loon,
Wi' a' his girnen imps stan' yon,
Till I my pipes hae gat in tune,
An' blawn my bags an' screw'd my drone.

Hail, Poverty, thou friend indeed,
Though sair thou noosts and nevals me,
Ne'er yet was wight o' bardie breed,
Forsaken or disown'd by thee.

My

* A Star and Garter.

My gallant *Stem*, tho' gray wi' eild,
Gat up to meet his Charley's foes,
An' found thee on'a bluidy field,
When back to back wi' brave Montrose.

Thou frae his hauddin' never stirr'd,
Thrave like a breckan ilka year,
An' ay sin syne was invinter'd
Amang the bulk o' goods an' gear.

London, 1805. T. M. C.

On the HYBERNATION *of* ANIMALS.

THE effects which winter produces on the vegetable kingdom are so obvious as to be perceived by the most inattentive observers; while the changes that take place in the animal creation are as certain and extensive, though not so generally known or attended to. From the circumstances of these changes in the animal kingdom not being of such importance to the concerns of life, they have seldom engaged the mind of the philosopher, and on that account are but obscurely known. The observations that have been made on this subject are so much dispersed in books of natural history and physiology that a concise view of them can hardly be given.

The various changes which take place in the animal kingdom previous to the winter season, or the particular state in which animals are found during that period, constitute what is called their *state of hybernation*. In this essay it is only proposed to give a general view of one particular state of hybernation which is called *torpidity*. Those animals that enter into that state are called *torpid*, or *sleeping animals*.

Before entering into this inactive state, torpid animals provide a habitation suited to their natures, which is very different in different species of animals. Thus the *marmot*, (arctomys marmota) remains in a torpid state during the winter in the same burrow that protected it from the occasional inclemencies of the weather, or guarded it against the attacks of its enemies during the summer season. When active and vigorous, marmots live in herds; and during winter they lie benumbed together. To secure, if possible, an undisturbed repose, these animals, when they feel the first approaches of the sleeping season, shut the passages to their habitations in such a manner that it is more easy to dig up the earth any where else than in such parts as they have thus fortified.

The *hedgehog*, or *urchin*, (erinaceus europaeus,) in order to prepare for its torpid state, wraps itself up in those leaves of which it composes its nest, and in this state passes the winter at the root of the hedge that skreened it from the passing storm, or under the covert of the furze where it lived during summer. *Frogs* and *lizzards* that spend the summer months in the watery element, are frequently found inclosed in the ice into which it is converted, where they remain several months, exposed to a most intense cold without being destroyed by it. The *snail*, that creeps along the rocks in quest of nourishment during the warm months of the year, retires to a cavity of it during winter, where attaching the mouth of its shell to some flat surface, it forms underneath that a thin crust, consisting of a large proportion of animal matter and carbonate of lime. In this state it remains during the cold season: at the approach of summer it throws off this operculum and returns to life and activity *. On account of the different species

On

* A few weeks ago I brought some specimens of the helix nemeralis from Arthur's seat, while in their torpid state, and placed themon the outside of a window facing

of animals retiring to places fitted for their different manners and habits, a secure retreat is thus generally obtained, and they are allowed to follow this law of their nature, without being in danger of destruction.

Having thus provided themselves with a safe retreat, they sink into a torpid state; the functions of life almost entirely cease, and a kind of temporary death supervenes. In this state the *circulation of the blood* becomes extremely slow, and in many cases is totally suspended. Spallanzani and others are of opinion, that the circulation of the blood is entirely stopped in the remote branches of the arteries and veins, and only proceeds in the trunks of the larger vessels and near the heart. In the humster (mus cricetus) the circulation of the blood is so slow during its torpid state, that the pulsations of the heart do not exceed fifteen in a minute; while in its active state they amount to 150 in the same time *.

Mr Cornish applied a thermometer to the body of a torpid *bat*, and found that it indicated 36° F. At this temperature the heart beat 60 times in a minute. When awakened, so much as that it could fly a little, he again applied the thermometer, which now indicated 38° F. and the heart beat 100 times in a minute †. Dr Reeve found that the heart of a toad beat 30 times in a minute when the surrounding air was 49° F: that it beat 12 times in a minute, when in water at 35°, and that the motion of the heart ceased entirely when under 30°, but returned when the animal was removed to a warm temperature ‡. This feeble state of the circulation is only what we ought to expect, when we consider the temperature in which they subsist, and their sleepy and inactive state.

The function of *respiration* appears to be totally suspended, at least this is the case with most of those that have been examined with accuracy. The situation in which these animals are found during their torpid state, renders it impossible for this function to be carried on. Thus the humster shut up in his burrow, could not receive a sufficient supply of oxygen during the winter months. The lizard inclosed in ice, and the snail hermetically sealed in its shell, can never respire, and consequently must pass their torpid state without inhalation of air. The experiments of the illustrious Spallanzani put this matter beyond a doubt. During the winter of 1795 he kept a torpid marmot four hours in a vessel containing carbonic acid gas, the thermometer marking 12° of Reaumur; in this situation it continued to live, while a bird and rat, exposed to the influence of the gas at the same time, expired instantaneously. The same experiment he repeated on a bat equally lethargic and with a similar result. Bats in this condition, when confined in a vessel containing atmospherical air, pro-

facing the south. After a shower in the middle of a temperate day, they all revived; the operculum, or covering of their shell, fell off, and the animals moved about. A cold prevailing in the evening, they again returned to their state of torpidity, and a covering was found on the mouth of their shells next morning. These changes have taken place several times in succession, and always after a shower. The first operculum consisted chiefly of carbonate of lime; the last formed ones contained more animal matter, and were much thinner. At present they are in an inactive state, the temperature of the air being 48° of Fahr. March 1805.

* Buffon's Natural History vol. 7.

† Barrington's Miscellanies.

‡ Reeve's thesis de animalibus hieme spitis.

produced 5 hundredths of carbonic acid, and consumed $\frac{8}{135}$ of oxygen. As no appearances of respiration could be perceived, this philosopher concluded, that the evolution of the carbonic acid was from the skin, and the consumption of the oxygen gas to be caused by the same agent.

To be continued. *J. F.*

Scottish Review.

History of Scotland by *Malcolm Laing*. Vol. I. and II. 18s. Mawman, London, Constable and Co. Edinburgh, 1804.

SOME years ago, Mr Laing published in two volumes a history of Scotland, beginning with the accession of James VI. to the crown of England, and ending with the Union of the two kingdoms. By this he has attained a very high reputation for accuracy and depth of research. A new edition lately published has been encreased to four volumes, by prefixing a long dissertation on the murder of Darnley. In this his design is to prove the participation of Mary in the murder of her husband. As the history itself has been long in the hands of the public, it is the dissertation only which at present comes under our notice.

For our parts, we are disposed to think that a great deal too much has already been written upon this subject. Mr Laing may urge, indeed, that the public has shewn no indisposition to peruse the numerous volumes which have appeared on the other side. But this is probably owing, not to any sense of the importance of the subject, but to sharing that amorous and romantic enthusiasm which prompted the authors to become the champions of royal and suffering beauty. The perusal therefore of two large volumes, destined to establish the guilt of that unfortunate Princess, will, we doubt, by the generality of readers, be thought to be rather an ungrateful task.

We cannot pretend to have ever sounded the depths of this controversy or to be prepared to form a judgement as to the correctness of the numberless minute details with which these volumes are crowded. We shall content ourselves therefore with giving a concise view of the manner in which the proof is conducted.

Mr Laing divides his charge into seven heads, and proceeds to investigate historically, I. The facts which preceded. II. Those which succeeded the murder of Darnley. III. The conferences at York and Westminster; and to examine critically, IV. The letters from Mary to Bothwell. V. Her sonnets. VI. The contract of marriage between them. VII. The confessions and judicial depositions of those who suffered for her husband's death.

Under the first head, Mr Laing begins so high as her education at the Court of France. There was nothing, he observes, in this education to render her incapable of the crimes afterwards laid to her charge. That court was the most licentious and dissolute in Europe: nor were the family of Guise, and Catharine de Medicis, the persons most likely to inspire her with a horror at assassination. Pursuing her to Scotland, Mr Laing streanuously combats the idea brought forward by some historians, which represents the gentleness of her sex and character, as rendering her unfit to maintain her authority over a turbulent and barbarous people. He produces two striking instances of the contrary. Dazzled by a few superficial accomplishments, she marries Darnley; but his elevation was opposed by a powerful party, headed by Murray, an able and popular

pular nobleman. Against this combination Mary takes the most prompt and decisive measures: she raises an army of eighteen thousand men, forces the confederate Lords to take up arms, drives them from Glasgow to Edinburgh, and thence to Dumfries, and finally compels them to leave the kingdom. Again, after the murder of Rizzio, she shows herself mistress of the most profound policy and dissimulation; lulls, or gains over the most active of her opponents; escapes to Dunbar, and having raised an army of eight thousand men, drives them a second time out of the kingdom.

Mr Laing then proceeds to notice the utter disgust which succeeded her former vehement affection for Darnley, and the criminal passion for Bothwell which soon followed. To this latter nobleman Mr Laing endeavours to prove that she had surrendered her honour, even before the death of her husband. Then follow the feigned reconciliation, the removal to Edinburgh, with a variety of suspicious circumstances previous to the murder. Here indeed it was hardly possible to add any thing to the distinct and masterly statement of Robertson.

Under the third head, which relates to the transactions that followed the trial, Mr Laing finds ample theme for animadversion. The supine inattention of Mary, the honours and power with which Bothwell was invested, his mock trial, the seizure of her person so evidently made with her own consent, and finally her precipitate marriage: These occurrences leave no doubt, that if Mary was not privy to the crime, she was at least well pleased that it had been committed, and felt no sort of resentment against those whom she could not but suspect to be the authors of it.

In consequence of the general indignation excited by these proceedings, a confederacy was formed, by which Mary was deprived of her authority, and confined to the castle of Lochleven. Soon after, an incident occurred, highly interesting to the present discussion. A casket, containing letters, sonnets, and two contracts of marriage, which had passed between her and Bothwell, was intercepted, or said to be intercepted, by the Earl of Morton. The use made by the confederate Lords of this discovery appears to have been that of intimidating Mary into a resignation of the crown: but Mr Laing contends, that the only alternative which they could offer, in case of her not acceding to this demand, was a judicial trial, and consequent conviction: that the French Court being certainly favourable to Mary, and Elizabeth having openly interposed in her behalf, they could not have ventured on any severer measures. Her resignation of the crown, therefore, with her subsequent escape from Lochleven, and retreat into England, can be ascribed to nothing but a well-founded apprehension of the final issue of such an inquiry. We do not altogether see the force of this reasoning. No doubt, there would have been a trial, but, besides the ignominy of such a proceeding, Mary must have seen that it would be conducted by her avowed enemies, and by men who, in case of her acquittal, would lose all their importance. She might thus see little ground to expect that it would be conducted with perfect impartiality.

The author then proceeds to the conferences at York and Westminster, of which we shall present our readers with the following summary, as given by himself.

That the original and sole object of the conference in England, under the form of an accusation against her rebellious subjects, was to vindicate her innocence from the public imputations of adultery and murder, before she could be admitted to Elizabeth's presence, or

or restored to her throne; but that she should be restored, if innocent, unconditionally by arms; if guilty merely of culpable indiscretions, conditionally by an accommodation; and the conclusion was obvious, and sufficiently understood, that if plainly guilty of her husband's murder, she had no claim for protection or aid: That she receded at first, on perceiving her adversaries might become her accusers, and was only induced to accede to the conference by the vain expectation that they would not venture to accuse their sovereign; by the assurance of Elizabeth's friendship, and from the despair of otherwise obtaining her release: That she confined her accusations to their usurpation of the government, when conscious herself that Morton and Lethington *were assenting to the murder*, which they seemed to prosecute; and employed the latter, to whose guilt she was privy, to conciliate Norfolk's favour, and prevent, by their joint intrigues, the accusation intended by the regent, that she was the chief author of her husband's murder: That when furnished by Lethington with copies of the letters, and when informed of the evidence communicated at York to the English commissioners, and of the infamy which in Norfolk's opinion her character would incur if the letters were divulged, she instructed her commissioners not to answer at Westminster to any new allegations, but if the proceedings touched her honour, to break off, and dissolve the conference, under the pretext of Murray's admission to court: That her commissioners, as a measure of precaution, introduced accordingly an obscure protest, that they were content to treat without prejudice to her honour; but when the accusation was unexpectedly preferred against her, they refused to answer unless their mistress was admitted to Elizabeth's presence, a favour which had been denied from the beginning; and while they applied privately for an accommodation, to prevent the charge, protested against any future proceedings on the same day that the proofs were exhibited; and renewed their protestation that the conference was dissolved, when they knew that the letters were already produced: That Mary, therefore, at that critical moment, when accused of the murder, shrank from the charge, by dissolving the conference, and ratified in fact the authenticity of the letters, to which her refusal to answer constitutes a full and direct acknowledgment of the proofs of her guilt: That the letters exhibited to the commissioners were examined by the privy council, in presence even of her own partisans, and "compared "for the manner of writing, and fashion "of orthography, with sundry others, "her letters to Elizabeth, long since "heretofore written, *in the collation "whereof no difference could be found*:" That Elizabeth offered immediately to communicate the evidence if she would agree to make a direct answer, without exception; instead of which she attempted merely to recriminate on Murray, whom, had she believed him guilty, she should have accused at first, but maintained a guarded silence concerning Morton and Lethington, when conscious that the one was privy, and the other accessary, to the murder: That the offer, on a vague application for copies, was conditionally renewed, if she would engage by a written obligation to answer: but that her commissioners absolutely refused to answer, under the pretext that Murray, against whom they had nothing to produce, was permitted to return: That instead of embracing the last opportunity to vindicate her innocence by a detection of the letters, they declined the offer, and broke off the investigation for ever, by a peremptory demand for her departure from England, which they were well assured would not be obtained: And the plain and obvious conclusion, that she recoiled from every enquiry into the proofs of her guilt, and attested thereby the authenticity of the letters of which she was conscious, can admit of no dispute. P. 197.

Mr Laing then proceeds to the letters, of the objections to which he subjects a long and minute examination, through which our limits do not permit us to follow him. He traces five different copies. 1. The French originals. These made their first appearance at Westminster, and were collated with Mary's common handwriting, to which they appeared to correspond. They have now perished, in consequence, Mr Laing supposes,

supposes, of coming into the possession of King James at the time of the Gowrie conspiracy. That Prince might, out of a natural solicitude for his mother's honour, be induced to destroy them. 2. A Scotch translation, of which the initial sentence is always French. This appears to have been made for the use of the Scottish parliament, and was also produced in the conferences at York. The advocates for Mary insist, that this, as well as the preceding, was produced at first as an original which would wholly invalidate the authority of both. Mr Laing, however, brings forward different passages, which seem to prove, that it was presented merely as a translation. 3. A Latin translation of the three first letters, annexed to Buchanan's Detection, and the Actio contra Mariam. Mr Laing states, contrary to the common opinion, that the latter piece, as well as the translation of the letters, were not by Buchanan but by one Wilson, a professed Rhetorician. They appear to have been from the Scotch copy. 4. A French translation from the Latin and Scotch, printed at Rochelle, and containing the initial sentences prefixed to the Scotch edition. 5. An English translation made apparently for the Court of Queen Elizabeth, and of which two letters remain.

Mr Laing insists strongly also on the internal evidences, such as slight and remote allusions to passing events, as well as to passages in her favourite authors. The style also is extremely appropriate

> Every impartial reader of taste and judgment will determine whether they are not the genuine productions of a female, and that female indisputably the queen. Amidst the numerous and daily productions of romance, no great discernment, or literary acumen would be necessary to pronounce of each novel that occurs, whether the author were a male, or some female letter-writer, whom the most accomplished scholar would in vain attempt to imitate in her incessant volubility and easy chit-chat; in the habitual amplification of the most trivial objects, and in the quick and incoherent transitions of female sentiment, passions, prejudices, intrigues and pursuits. Nothing can be more natural or characteristical, than the flippant loquacity of the letters to Bothwell, the exuberance of sentiment, and affected gallantry; the sudden vicissitudes of love, grief, indignation, fear, dissimulation, jealousy, and hatred of Darnley, intermixed with compunction at his approaching fate. The first letter in particular, affords a curious spectacle of the secret workings of the female heart. Nothing is explained of which Bothwell was informed; nothing omitted, of which he required information; and the murder is darkly, yet indisputably intimated, as a deed to which Mary was impelled by her lover, but on which she could not venture to discourse, even with herself. But the letters subsequent to the murder contain no mention of her late husband, to whom indeed the most remote allusion would be carefully avoided, as a subject of conscious and mutual guilt. As the letters were written in a cultivated, and refined language, in which she excelled, the elegance as well as idioms of the original breaks forth occasionally thro' the rude medium of a homely translation: and every impartial reader, who compares them with her subsequent letters to Elizabeth and others, will determine, from the same loose, and voluble declamation, unrestrained invective, and passionate complaint, whether they are not the genuine, indisputable productions of the Scottish queen. p. 329.

Mr Laing then proceeds with a similar examination, equally laboured and minute, of the sonnets and contracts of marriage. One of the strongest proofs of the authenticity of all those pieces, seems to be their not containing more striking and decided evidence of Mary's participation in the murder of her husband. Had they been forged with the view of fixing upon her this imputation, they might have been expected to be filled with the most direct and

clear expressions of the share which she took in it.

Next come the confessions and judicial depositions of those who suffered for the murder of Darnley. And here there appears a discrepancy, which has been a subject of great triumph to the advocates of Mary. Such of them as are annexed to Buchannan's detection, are different from the originals, still extant in the Cotton library. This difficulty Mr Laing obviates, by supposing that the latter are the judicial depositions produced to the English commisioners on the 8th of December 1568; the former are the confessions of the criminals at the place of execution on the 7th, 10th, 12th, or 13th of the same month. This appears both from several expressions in Anderson's general preface, and from the different style in which the two are expressed. The other objections are then discussed with the same length and minuteness as in the former parts of the dissertation. One argument seems curious, derived from the circumstance of the king's body having been found in the morning at some distance from the house, without any marks of external violence. It was then imagined that this was incompatible with the action of gunpowder, and therefore that the king must have been previously dispatched in some other manner. But the depositions and confessions uniformly contradict this supposition, which they certainly would not have done had their object been merely to give a probable account of the transaction. It has since been found that the condition of the body was quite inconsistent with the effects of gunpowder.—The reader may now perhaps be able to form some idea of the kind of entertainment he may expect to meet with in these volumes. Mr Laing possesses, in an eminent degree, the qualifications of good sense, and of a rigid and minute attention to facts. In tracing out these, he discovers an industry and perseverance which it is impossible not to admire. We must observe, however, that his object seems often to be less the discovery of truth, than the confirmation of his own preconceived opinions. The dissertation is conducted throughout in the style of a pleading, where the writer, from the first, takes one side, and resolutely shuts his eyes against every thing which appears on the other. A great degree of bitterness also is displayed, both against the unfortunate queen herself, and against every one who has attempted to defend or palliate her conduct: upon the latter, in particular, contemptuous epithets are liberally bestowed. Mr Laing complains indeed of the scurrility in which they themselves have indulged, and has produced, no doubt, some very flagrant instances in proof of his assertion. Still this imposes no obligation upon him to imitate their example, especially as no part of that scurrility was directed against himself.

In the choice of subjects, too, Mr Laing seems guided less by the importance of the question, than by a strenuous antipathy to every thing which wears a romantic aspect, or is flattering to national vanity or prejudice. Upon the whole, we are doubtful if the value of the History of Scotland will be much augmented by the present appendage.

Scottish Literary Intelligence.

Works lately Published.

THE History of Egypt, by James Wilson, D. D. Minister of Falkirk. 3 vols. 8vo. 1l. 4s.

A short statement of some late proceedings respecting the appointment of a Mathematical Professor; by Dugald Stewart, 8vo. 2d edit. 2s.

Sermons, by the Rev. George Goldie, late Minister of Atholstoneford. 1 vol. 8vo. 7s.

An Enquiry into the Nature of

Cause

Cause and Effect, with observations on the Doctrine of Mr Hume, 8vo.

An Allegorical Poem, entitled "The Progress of Refinement," by the Rev. William Gillespie, is nearly ready for publication.

Another poem is expected from the admired pen of Mr Macneil.

Celestial Phenomena *for June* 1805.

Sunday, June 2d.

THE Planet Mars will be in conjunction with *Regulus*, or α Leonis, a star of the first magnitude, situated in the Lion's heart in longitude 4ˢ..27°..7′..50″. The latitude of Mars being 1°..19′..57″ North, and that of Regulus 27′..27″ North, the nearest approach of their centers will be 1°..52′..30″, and the planet will pass to the North of the star.

Tuesday, June 4th.

The Moon will eclipse *n Leonis*, a star of the 4.5 magnitude, situated in longitude 5ˢ..21°..39′..53″, and latitude 5°..42′..10″.. South; the star will immerge behind the dark limb of the Moon at 25 minutes after 11 o'clock in the evening, when it is situated about 4 minutes to the South of the Moon's center; and after continuing eclipsed for the space of 58 minutes, it will emerge from behind the enlightened limb of the Moon at 23 minutes after 12 o'clock in the evening, when it is placed about 3¼ minutes to the south of the Moon's centre. At the middle of this occultation the Moon's horizontal semidiameter will be 15′..33″, her horizontal parallax 57′..4″, and she will come to the meridian about 19 minutes after 6 o'clock in the evening.

Thursday, June 6th.

The *third* satellite of Jupiter will emerge from behind his shadow at 13 minutes and 46 seconds after 9 o'clock in the evening.

Friday, June 7th.

All the satellites of Jupiter are situated on the eastern side of his disc in the same order as they lie in the system, the first being nearest and the fourth farthest from the planet.

Monday, June 10th.

About 52 minutes and 23 seconds after 10 o'clock in the evening, the first satellite of Jupiter will emerge from behind his shadow.

Wednesday June 12th.

The Planet Saturn will be stationary in longitude 6ˢ..9°..25′..57″, and latitude 2°. 34′ North, his declination will be 1°..23′ South, and he will south at 7ʰ..9′ in the evening.

Thursday, June 13th.

The third satellite of Jupiter will immerge into his shadow at 1 minute and 23 seconds after 11 o'clock in the evening; and after continuing eclipsed for the space of 2ʰ..14′..2″, it will emerge from behind his shadow, at 14 minutes and 2 seconds after one o'clock next morning.

Friday, June 14th.

The Planet Mars will be in conjunction with ζ *Leonis*, a star of the 4th magnitude, situated in the lion's fore leg, in longitude 5ˢ..3°..41′..24″, and latitude 8′ .29″ North. The latitude of Mars being 1°..7′..40″ North, the distance of their centers, at the time of conjunction, will be 59′.. 11″, and the planet will pass to the North of the star.

On the same day the planet Mercury will arrive at his greatest elongation from the Sun, and may be seen in the morning before sun-rise.

Monday, June 17th.

The Moon will eclipse *Ancha*, or θ *Aquarii*, a star of the 4th magnitude, situated in longitude 11ˢ..0°..32′..41″, and latitude 2°..43′..22″ North. The star will appear to come in contact with the Western or enlightened limb of the Moon, at 59 minutes and 40 seconds after 12 o'clock in the evening, at which time it is situated about 2¼ minutes to the South of the Moon's center, and after continuing

tinuing eclipsed for the space of $1^h..10'..35''$, it will emerge from behind the obscure limb of the Moon, at 10 minutes and 15 seconds after two o'clock next morning, when it is placed about $6\frac{1}{2}$ minutes south of the Moon's center. At the time of conjunction, the Moon's horizontal diameter is $30'..16''$, her horizontal parallax $55'..33''$, and she will come to the meridian at 18 minutes after 4 o'clock in the morning.

About 12 minutes before the commencement of the preceding occultation, viz. at 48 minutes and 39 seconds after 12 o'clock in the evening, the first satellite of Jupiter will emerge from behind his shadow.

Wednesday, June 19th.

The planet Mercury will be in conjunction with ε *Tauri*, a star of the 3.4 magnitude. The nearest approach of their centers will be $8\frac{1}{4}$ minutes, and the planet will pass to the South of the star.

Friday, June 21st.

The *Sun* will enter the sign *Cancer* at 36 minutes after 10 o'clock in the evening.

Monday June 24th.

The planet Jupiter will be in conjunction with λ *Gemini*, a star of the 4th magnitude. The distance of their centers at the time of conjunction will be 46 minutes, and the planet will pass to the North of the star.

Tuesday, June 25th.

The planet Mercury will be in conjunction with ι Tauri, a star of the 4th magnitude. The nearest approach of their centers will be $27\frac{1}{4}$ minutes, and the planet will pass to the South of the star.

Wednesday, June 26th.

About 14 minutes and 14 seconds after 9 o'clock in the evening the 1st satellite of Jupiter will emerge from behind his shadow.

On the same day the Sun will be eclipsed invisible in this country. The true time of conjunction happens at $11^h..1'$, at which time the longitude of the Sun and Moon is $3^s..4^o..47''$. and the Moon's latitude $1^o..4'..30''$ North.

Thursday, June 27th.

At 14 minutes and 15 seconds after 11 o'clock in the evening, the 2d satellite of Jupiter will emerge from behind his shadow.

On the same day the Georgium Sidus will be stationary in longitude $6^s..16^o..50'..11''$, and latitude 38 minutes North.

Saturday, June 29th.

The planet Mars will be in conjunction with χ Leonis, a star of the 4.5 magnitude. The nearest approach of their centers will be $28\frac{1}{4}$ minutes, and the planet will pass to the South of the star.

Murrayfield, May 27th 1805. } *D. B.*

Memoirs of the Progress of Manufactures, Chemistry, Science, *and the* Fine Arts.

A Method of expelling fluoric acid from topaz has been discovered by M. Vauquelin. The celebrated Klaproth was the first who discovered the existence of fluoric acid in this gem, but he did not publish the method by which the acid was expelled. M. Laugier made many attempts to verify the discovery of Klaproth, but all of them proved abortive. M. Vauquelin first treated the Saxon topaz with caustic potash in a silver crucible, in the usual manner, and having diluted the mass with water, he introduced it into a retort, and poured on itsulphuric acid. White fumes soon arose, which, when collected, exhibited all the characteristics of fluoric acid combined with silex. The silex came almost wholly from the stone, as the retort was not perceptibly acted upon by the acid. The same result was obtained from the Brasilian topaz, so that this

this gem may be regarded as a siliceous compound, consisting of fluoric acid, alumine and silex, or a true alumino-siliceous fluate; and the discovery must be considered as of the highest importance in the science of mineralogy.

It is well known that oxygen and hydrogen gas, the component parts of water, may be combined by means of the electric spark. M. Biot of the National Institute has succeeded in effecting this combination without the aid of electricity, by rapidly compressing a mixture of the two gases in an air pump. The compression, by bringing the particles of gas into intimate union, makes them throw out a quantity of heat sufficient to set them on fire. Some precaution must be taken in making this experiment, as dangerous accidents have happened from the force of the explosion.

M. Proust announces in the Journal de Physique the discovery of two kinds of honey, the one is liquid, the other dry, not deliquescent, crystallizable in its manner, and less saccharine than sugar. They are separated by spirit of wine, for which purpose granulated honey must be employed.

M. *Giobert* denies the decomposition of Water by the galvanic fluid, and maintains that the water is decomposed in the pile by means of the zinc. The gases may circulate along the wires of communication of the pile, by impregnating the interposed pieces with pure ammonia, and immersing the wires, particularly that of the negative pole, in a solution of alum, which will be immediately precipitated by the ammonia that will be conducted by the wire. In some experiments Giobert caused even indigo to circulate by impregnating the pasteboard discs with a solution of that substance in sulphuric acid. He found also that the fluid of the pile burns atmospheric air, giving birth to the nitric acid. It burns also a mixture of hydrogen gas and oxigen.

A compensation curb for chronometers has been invented by Mr James Scott, Dublin. It appears to be greatly superior to the compound balance, which is generally employed for the same purpose, viz. for counteracting the error to which the pendulum spring is liable from the smallest variation of heat or cold. A description and drawing of this instrument may be seen in Nicholson's Journal No. 41. p. 20.

The following curious experiment was made by Mr W. Peele, of Cambridge. He took about a pint of distilled water, and decomposed one half of it by the Galvanic influence. Having evaporated the other half, he found at the bottom of the glass a small quantity of salt, which upon examination proved to be muriate of soda, or common salt. He was induced to try this experiment, by considering, that when water was decomposed by Galvanism, the water near one of the wires had alkaline, while that near the other end had acid properties. From this he inferred, that if an acid and an alkali were really produced, he should, by decomposing a large quantity of water, obtain a small quantity of some kind of neutral salt, which was actually the case upon trying the experiment.

A very ingenious and much-improved gun-lock has been invented by Mr George Dodd, who has been rewarded with the silver medal and ten guineas by the Society of Arts, in whose transactions for 1804 an account of the invention is published. This new lock has the following advantages: 1. It is rather more simple in its construction than the common lock, and is as cheap and easy to be cleaned. 2. It is discharged very speedily, and cannot possibly hang at the half cock. 3. The bearing parts at half cock

are extremely strong, and cannot miss their hold by any accident.

Mr Thomas Reid, Edinburgh, has found, in opposition to the opinion of Berthoud, that a pendulum may be so fitted up with a wooden rod as to measure time with as great accuracy as the best gridiron or compensation pendulums that have yet been constructed; and that a much greater degree of accuracy is obtained when the ball is hung on the rod by its centre, than when its lower extremity is allowed to rest on the regulating nut. This gentleman observes, that the application of a pendulum to the striking part of clocks, for which Mr Massey was rewarded by the Society of Arts, was invented by Le Roy in 1754, and has been mentioned by Berthoud (*Essai sur l'Horlogerie* 1763,) as an invention of his own.

Murrayfield, }
May 27th, 1805. }

Books *and* Pamphlets *published in* London *in* April 1805.

Astronomy.

THE Wonders of the Telescope; or, A Display of the Wonders of the Heavens; with numerous Copperplates, 4s.

Antiquities.

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The Cabinet, a comic Opera, as performed at the Theatre Royal Coventgarden; written by Thomas Dibdin.

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The Young Mathematician's Assistant; by George Bagley. 4to. 5s 6d.

Greek Exercises in Syntax, Ellipses, &c. By the Rev. William Neilson. 8vo. 5s. With the Key, 8s. boards.

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A Treatise on the Laws for the Relief and Settlement of the Poor; by Michael Nolan, Barrister, 2 vols. 8vo. 1l. 4s. boards.

The Trial of Mr Justice Johnson in the Court of King's Bench, Ireland, 8vo. 4s. 6d. sewed.

The Trial of Captain William Smith, for Criminal Conversation with the Wife of Lieutenant Charles John Bond, at Bombay, February. 1804. 3s.

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An Essay on the Etropeon, or Inversion of the Eye-lids; by Philip Crampton, M. D. 2s. 6d.

An Essay on Pestilential Diseases; by James Rymer, Surgeon, R. N. Y.

An Inquiry into the Origin, Symptoms, and Cure of Constitutional Diseases, particularly Scrophula, Consumption, Cancer, and Gout; illustrated by Cases. By William Lambe, M. D. 8vo. 5s. 6d. boards.

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Suggestion for the Improvement of the Force of the British Empire; by the Hon. Brigadier General Stewart, M. P. 2s.

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Observations on the Poor Laws, and on the Management of the Poor in Great Britain, arising from a Consideration of the Returns now before Parliament; by the Right Hon. George Rose. 1s. 6d.

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Substance of the Speech of the Right Hon. William Pitt, on his Motion for the Reduction of the Militia, 21st March, 1805; taken from the Notes of Allan M'Cloud, Esq.; to which is annexed, the Substance of the Speech of Lord Hawkesbury, on the National Defence; from the Notes of the same Gentleman. 1s. 6d.

Poetry.

The Poetical Works of the Author of the Heroic Epistle to Sir William Chambers, now first collected; with Notes, by the Original Publisher. 8vo. 4s. 6d. boards.

Madoc, a Poem; by Robert Southey, large volume 4to. with four beautiful Vignettes. 2l. 2s. boards.

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The Anti-Corsican, a Poem, addressed to the Volunteers of Great Britain, 5s.

Topography.

Observations on the Coasts of Hampshire, Sussex, and Kent, relative chiefly to Picturesque Beauty; by the late William Gilpin, M. A. Published for the Benefit of the School at Boldre, 4to. 10s. 6d. boards.

Londonium Redivivum: or, an Ancient History and Modern Description of London; by James Peller Malcolm. Volume II. and III. 4to. 3l. 13s. 6d. boards.

Theology.

An Examination of the Rev. Charles Daubeny's Vindiciæ Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ, 3s. 6d.

A View of the Old and New Way of Doctrine, Discipline, and Government, in the Churches of Christ; including Remarks on Baptism, &c. by David M'Rae, A. M. 2s. sewed.

The Progress of Error, concerning the Person of Christ, represented in a sermon, by Thomas Belsham, 1s.

Sermons by Sir Henry Moncrieff Wellwood, D. D. one of the Ministers of St Cuthberts, Edinburgh, 8vo. 8s. 6d. boards.

The Christian System unfolded in a Course of Practical Essays on the principal Doctrines of Christianity; by Thomas Robinson, M. A. 3 vols. 1l. 4s. boards.

An attempt to illustrate those Articles of the Church of England which the Calvinists improperly consider as Calvinistical. In eight Sermons; preached before the University of Oxford, in the year 1804, at Bampton's Lectures: by Richard Laurence, L. L. D. 8s. boards.

A Sermon preached at the Anniversary Meeting of the Sons of the clergy at the Cathedral of St Paul, May 1804, by the Rev. Robert Hodgson: to which are added, a List of the Stewards, Names of the Preachers, and the Sums collected at the Anniversary Meetings, since the Year 1721. 4to. 30 pages.

Two Discourses, designed to Recommend a General Observance of the Lord's Supper; by T. Drummond. 8vo. 43 pages.

Faith's Reply to a most important Question: a Sermon, preached at Holloway Chapel, March 10, 1805; by J. Bain. 6d.

The Holy Spirit the Spirit of Truth: a Sermon preached at the Baptist Monthly Association, Red Cross-street, Cripplegate; February, 1805; by James Dore. 1s.

The Personality and Deity of the Holy Ghost, a Sermon, preached at the Baptist Monthly Meeting, in Dean-street, Southwark, January, 1805; by Joseph Jenkin, D. D. 1s.

Three Sermons, preached at Cutlers'-hall; to which are added the Substance of a Discourse delivered at Maize Pond, Southwark, in Aid of the Baptist Fund; by James Dore, 8vo. 3s. boards.

A Guide to Heaven, addressed to all who believe the Gospel; by the Rev. Charles Sleech Hawtrey, small 8vo. 4s. boards.

The Prophecy of Isaiah (Chap. 52. and 53.) concerning the Messiah, paraphrased; designed as a Meditation on Good Friday; by the Rev. Edward Brackenbury. 8vo. 30 pages.

Voyages and Travels.

A Collection of Cotemporary Voyages and Travels (to be continued in Monthly Numbers, at half a Crown each) consisting of Translations of New Voyages and Travels, from foreign Languages; Voyages and Travels never before published; and of Anylysis of New Voyages and Travels published in England; Volume I. large 8vo. with numerous Plates. 15s. boards.

Travels in Europe, Asia Minor, and Arabia; by J. Griffiths, M. D. with Plates, 4to. 1l. 11s. 6d. boards.

Literary Intelligence English *and* Foreign.

It is with pleasure we inform our readers, that the university of Oxford is at present employed in improving the condition of its public library. The Bodleian, which has, heretofore, had only two, will now have three librarians, beside two assistants. The restriction from marriage, we understand, is to be taken off; and the salaries attaching to the different offices will be, in some degree, proportioned to their duties.

Mr Turnbull, just returned from Port Jackson, in the Glatton, is preparing to publish an Account of his Voyages in the Pacific Ocean, and of his Residence in the Islands of Owhyhee and Otaheite in the Years 1803 and 1804. His work will contain the latest accounts of those interesting islands, and many particulars relative to the present state of the settlement of Botany Bay, which have not yet been given to the public. Mr Turnbull brought from Otaheite a youth, who lived with him as a servant, and who is now in London.

Mr Lilly Wigg, A.L.S. has been for some time engaged in collecting materials for a *Flora Esculenta*, containing the history, as far as it is known, of all plants employed for the food of man, in different parts of the world. It is hoped that this work, which has long been a desideratum, may be ready for publication early in the next year.

Dr John Reid is preparing for the press a work on the Nature, Progress, and Cure of Consumption, which will be published in the course of the autumn.

The Traveller's Guide, or English Itinerary, comprising a complete Topography of England and Wales, by W. C. Oulton, Esq. is now ready for publication.

A work, entitled Hints towards forming the Character of a young Princess, with Reference to the Education of the Princess Charlotte, will be shortly published.

Mr Matthias is proceeding with some additional volumes of Italian Poetry.

Sir James Mackintosh, in all his letters from Bombay to his friends, expresses his readiness to give every asisstance in his power to the students of oriental manners and literature, in their enquiries concerning India.

Mr Donovan, the author of several valuable publications on British natural history, will shortly bring forward his Descriptive Tour through South Wales and Monmouthshire. A number of elegant plates will accompany this work.

Mr M'Arthur, Author of Financial and Political Facts of the Eighteenth and present Century, has nearly ready for publication a work, in two volumes octavo, entitled Principles and Practice of Naval and Military Courts Martial.

Zimmermann's celebrated work on Solitude, forming the first part of the Select Modern Classics, is completed in two handsome octavo volumes, containing ten beautiful engravings.

Mr Taunton will resume his summer course of Lectures on Anatomy, Physiology and Surgery, on Saturday, the 25th of May, at the Finsbury Dispensary, St John's-square.

Mr Middleton is preparing for the press, An Enquiry into the Nature and Use of the Greek Articles, with a se-

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ries of Notes, critical and exegetical, on the New Testament.

Mr Cumberland is about to publish an Account of his own life and writings, interspersed with Anecdotes and Characters of the most distinguished Persons of his Time, in one volume, quarto, with portraits.

Mr Edmund Turner has nearly finished his History and Antiquities of Grantham.

The Rev. W. Parr Greswell will shortly present to the public a new and very considerably enlarged edition of Memoirs of Angelus Politianus, Fracastorius, and others; to which will be added, Translations from their poetical works; with notes and observations concerning other literary characters of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries.

The Rev. William Magee, the professor of mathematics in the university of Dublin, is preparing a new edition of his discourses on the Doctrines of the Atonement, &c. and, as an Appendix, he means to offer Strictures on Mr Belsham's Review of Mr Wilberforce's Treatise.

The same gentleman has in the press A new interpretation of the celebrated Prophecy of the Weeks of Daniel; in which will be enumerated the different schemes that have hitherto been proposed for its solution.

The Rev. T. Maurice, author of the History of Hindostan, and other works connected with oriental literature, proposes to publish by subscription, a tragedy formed on the Greek model, to be entitled the Fall of the Mogul; in which an effort will be made to restore to that species of dramatic composition the dignity of style, sentiment, and character, in which it has of late years been deficient.

The first volume of the History of Brecknockshire, by Mr Jones, is nearly ready for publication.

The fifth and sixth volumes of the Scientific Dialogues will be published the first week in May.

The Rev. Mr Graves has nearly completed his History of Cleveland, in Yorkshire.

Mr G. Dyer is preparing for publication a Miscellany. It will consist of biographical sketches, literary anecdotes, critical remarks, and moral reflections; together with an Essay towards an account of the principal public libraries in Great Britain, and of some of the most curious books therein contained. It will make one large octavo volume, and will be printed by subscription.

Mrs Cappe has in the press, and will speedily publish, a volume of Sermons, transcribed from the Short-hand papers of the late Rev. Newcome Cappe, with Memoirs of his Life. To which will be added, a Sermon preached at his funeral by the Rev. Wm. Wood. Also memoirs of the late Robert Cappe, M. D. together with a sermon preached on hearing an Account of his Death in a Voyage to Italy, on the 6th of November, 1802, by the Rev. Charles Wellbeloved.

The new edition of the Artist's Repository, entirely revised, corrected, and greatly augmented, is now almost complete.

Dr Charles Hall has in the press an octavo volume on the Effects of Civilization in the European States.

An uniform octavo edition of all Dr Jortin's works, including the Life of Erasmus, is in great forwardness. Several of the volumes are already printed.

A new and improved edition of the Thespian Dictionary is just published. It includes anecdotes and interesting biography of nearly one thousand popular performers, illustrated with portraits of the principal characters; and forms a complete modern history of the English stage.

The sportsman and amateur of the fine arts in general will be highly gratified to learn, that a splendid and hitherto-unrivalled work, entitled The sportsman's Cabinet, is just completed, in two volumes, super royal quarto. It consists of twenty-eight superb engravings by the celebrated artist Mr John Scott, from original paintings from life by P. Reinagle, Esq. They exhibit correct and animated delineations of the various species of the canine race, which are accompanied with copious descriptions, comprehending a complete history of British field-sports.

Dr Hager, distinguished in the literary world as the author of various works of profound and extensive erudition, and who has the honour to be now employed by the French Goverment, to publish a Dictionary of the Chinese Language, has at length arranged the

17,000 types which were cast by M. Fourmont, and is now ready to begin printing of the Dictionary. Dr Hager's Keys to the Chinese Language were published in London.

The American Company of Petersburgh has made a collection of upwards of 1000 volumes in the French and Russian languages, as the commencement of a library intended to be formed in the island of Kadjak, on the north-west coast of America, the principal establishment of the company.

Inspectors, called *Euphortatores*, have been appointed in all the Catholic colleges of Hungary and Austria. Their duty is to take care that the principles of religion are profoundly inculcated on the minds of youth. Every kind of criticism on religious works is strictly prohibited. At Vienna the lectures on logic, metaphysics, and natural philosophy, are held only in Latin. No individual can engage a private tutor for his children without the permission of the university, and those who disobey this decree run the risk of incapacitating their children for any public function or employment.

Gothe has anounced a work, entitled "Winkelmann and the Arts in the Eighteenth Century," the publication of which is eagerly expected by all the amateurs of the arts.

The imperial Academy of Sciences of Petersburg proposes, for the competition of the year 1806, a prize of 500 rubles for the memoir which shall present the most instructive series of new experiments on light considered as matter; on the properties that ought to be attributed to it; on the affinities which it appears to have with other bodies, whether organized or not; and on the modifications and phenomena which appear in those substances in consequence of the combinations which the light forms with them. The competition is open to individuals of every nation, and memoirs will be received till May 1. 1806.

The inquisition of Spain, in its edict of the year 1804, published a list of books forbidden in that kingdom, either entirely or in part. The number of articles amounts to 102; and among them are Locke's Essay on the Human understanding, which is condemned because the doctrines contained in it are destructive of true ideas of good and moral evil; and Pope's works, which are branded as obscene, erroneous, heretical, and blasphemous against the Pope.

A society has been formed at Florence, the object of whose labours is the history of its country. It has already published a small volume, containing an Essay on the origin and civilization of the first inhabitants of Italy, and a Treatise on the most certain epochs in the history of Florence till the year 1292. In the succeeding volumes will be given lives of celebrated natives of Tuscany recently deceased.

A complete edition of the works of the celebrated Herder is expected shortly to appear. The whole will compose about fifty volumes.

De Lalande has presented his *Connoissance du Tems de l'An* 15. to Bonaparte: it will be published by the Bureau of Longitude. This work contains a valuable collection of Memoirs, Observations and Tables, by Messrs Laplace, Delambre, Vidal, Burckhardt, &c. &c.; the life of the astronomer Bernier: and history of astronomy for 1804, by De Lalande; to serve as a continuation to his *Bibliographie Astronomique*.

Gesner, the celebrated German pastoral poet, has left in the possession of his family a collection of landscapes, and views from rural life, all by his own hand. Of these it is intended to publish engravings by Kolbe a native of Berlin, who has already distinguished himself as an engraver of landscapes.

The Magistracy of Augsburg have confiscated the whole edition of 1500 copies of Professor Gomer's work on the Political Laws of Germany, and have in their zeal fined the publisher.—Such is the liberty of the press at Augsburg!!!

A society has been established at Berlin, for the purpose of sending out missionaries to Africa, to disseminate among the Negroes the truths of Christianity, the knowledge of European arts, and the seeds of civilization. Two missionaries have been already sent to the coast of Guinea.

The following facts respecting the population of the Russian empire are deserving of notice. In 1803, the number of Marriages was 300,470; that of the births 1,270,341; that of the deaths 791,973, so that the number of births exceeded that of the deaths 418,368. the population therefore increased in a single year nearly half a million. Among the

the deaths are reckoned 1145 between 95 and 100; 158 between 100 and 105; 66 between 105 and 110; 34 between 110 and 115; 36 between 115 and 120; 15 between 120 and 125; 5 between 125 and 130; and 1 between 145 and 150.

The remains of Fenelon have been discovered in a vault, which escaped injury during the storm of the Revolution. A subscription has been entered into for erecting a monument worthy of the Memory of the author of Telemachus.

A geographical Dictionary of the Russian empire, undertaken four years since at Moscow, by Witch, and other learned geographers, has been resumed, and we expect from it a variety of curious details and descriptions, and complete maps of every part of that vast empire.

Poetry.

Extract from a poem on the City of Edinburgh, about the year 1638, in which the Author (Dr George Sibbald,) complains of the crouded situation of the Town, and expresses a strong desire that a new one should be built.

URBS quoque luxurians Populo, si dicere fas est,
Debuerat spatio liberiore frui.
Tecta salutiferos arcent nimis ardua soles,
Nec nimis aggestos ventilat aura Lares.
Stant circum nebulæ, vitiantur corpora fumo;
Eripit et medium spissior umbra diem.
Collibus incumbens geminis urbs pendula tota est,
Et nimis acclives cernis ubique vias,
Hinc et decrepiti, quos urget anhelitus æger,
Et gravidæ, de quo jure queruntur, habent.
Æstibus in mediis lassant vestigia; fallunt
Compita brumali lubrica facta gelu.
Adde quod hic nec fons, nec Rivus cernitur ullus,
Limpida vel populo, qua levet unda sitim.
Utitur urbs puteis, et aquis ex imbrice lectis,
Has bibit infelix, nec sine calce bibit.
Hinc gravis illuvies peregrinos enecat; ipsos
Et putris indigenas sæpe venenat aqua.
Hinc recrementis fœdantur compita passim,
Nec Populi vitium, culpa sed ipsa loci est.
Quæis ego permotus, devovi manibus urbem
Saxaque jam turpi squalida facta situ.
Spes erat hanc alibi redivivam posse renasci,
Hic ubi nec montes, stagna nec ulla nocent.
Pulchrior Assyrius mediis ex ignibus ales
Emicat, et pluma floridiore nitet."

EDINBURGH.

By Dr Arthur Johnston.

THAT Edinburgh may view the heav'n at will
Its built upon a lofty rising hill,
The fields and rivers which its handmaids be
It thence views, and the tributary-sea.
Here where the Sun displays its morning-light,
The Palace doth present it self to sight.
That princely-dwelling under Arthure's seat,
Adorn'd by most ingenious art of late.
Toward the west the raised Castle stands,
Which with its thunders giveth loud commands.
A Church appears in middle of the town,
Which is this city's and the earth's renown.
A structure rear'd by ancient Pietie,
Within its walls all things most stately be,
Its gilded top, which is of marble fine,
Shap'd as an interwoven crown doth shine.
The hall of judgement by the temple stands,
A building of most curious artists hands.
Each citizen hath such an house, that it
Might Peers of highest quality befit;
The threats of foes do not make them afraid,
Nor need they be by their assaults dismay'd.
Tiber doth Rome, the sea doth Venice fright,
But Edinburgh defies the waters' might.
Trust me, no city worthier is to be
With presence grac'd of royal dignitie:
And for a kingly city none can wish
A seat that's more convenient then this.

AN ADDRESS
TO THE NAIADS OF CHELTENHAM WATERS.

On hearing that a Young Lady intended to visit them.

YE Naiads with benignant care,
O'er Cheltenham's waters who preside,
And proudly view the English fair
That throng around your silver tide;

To taste your spring shall soon be borne,
A maid who indisputed reigns,

First

First of the nymphs whose charms adorn
Edina's towers, or Scota's plains.

Her graceful step and noble gait,
Her trunk superior soon declares,
And all her motions indicate
The import of the name she bears.

So moves the nymph—but when she talks
Her tongue seems guided by the loves,
Her eye is piercing as the hawk's,
And tender as the turtle dove's.

No language fitly can denote
The periods flowing from her tongue,
Correct as pedant ever wrote
And sweet as minstrel ever sung.

Each attribute of female praise
In her illustrated you'll find;
Her lovely countenance displays
The texture of her tender mind.

And if in dissipation's seat
Your truin can mental beauty prize,
Her conversation must compleat
The conquest of her radiant eyes.

When first your nymphs shall Mary spy,
With secret envy each shall pine;
But every youth shall hail with joy
The maid whose beauties brightest shine.

So, when in Cyprus' isle retir'd,
Fair Venus trode the Paphian green,
The nymphs unwillingly admir'd,
The youths proclaim'd her beauty's queen.

The PIONY *and the* LILLY *of the* VALLEY.

Written by a Young Lady of 14 Years of Age.

WHEN Summer gaily deck'd the ground
In all the charms of May,
I careless strolled the garden round,
And thus begun my lay:

O Modesty! thou sweetest grace,
That e'er adorned the female mind,
Without whose aid the lovely face,
And beauteous form, small homage find.

Ah! why wilt thou no longer stand,
The guardian Spirit of our Isle,
And why should fashion's changeful hand
Our simple native manners spoil!

How can the limbs so bold display'd,
The bosom all exposed to view,
Be ever sanctioned by the maid
Who yields to thee allegiance due?

As thus I sung, my ears were caught
By sounds that filled me with surprize,
They may (if not by wisdom fraught)
Teach thoughtless maidens to be wise.

A Piony, in crimson dreet,
With beauties staring as the sun,
The Lilly of the vale addressed,
And thus the dashing flower begun:

"Poor timid, shamefac'd, silly flower,
Why hide your beauties from the day?
Like me enjoy the fleeting hour;
Be lov'd and courted while you may.

Indeed your formal, prudish ways,
Will admiration never win
I cannot bear those odious stays,
That horrid muffling to the chin.

Off with your cap, your bosom bare,
Display your shoulder blades at least,
The eager gaze, the wondering stare,
Are to each female heart a feast."

As thus she spoke, her bosom rose,
That more its beauties might be seen:
The modest lilly shrunk more close,
And higher drew her tucker green.

In mildest accents she replied,
"I blame not modes which others use,
But those I see so vainly try'd,
I see no reason I should choose.

When Flora's votaries search the bed;
Their eager gaze I strive to shun,
Behind my leaves I veil my head,
For I would ne'er unsought be won.

And mark herein the difference lies,
And you the reason may descry,
The Lilly's modest form they prize,
But stare at you, and pass you by."

VERSES

Written by an old Lady afflicted with the Gout.

MY legs are turn'd sae swell'd of late,
My garters winny tie:
Sae lang's I hae a frien' within,
The feint a hair care I.

Some ca't the rose, some ca't the gout,
An' troth I dinny ken,
Be't gout or rose, I'm sure o' this,
I think 'twill never men'.

For months an' mair I've tether'd been,
And never seen the fields,
But what o' that, I've learn'd to ken
The comfort conscience yields.

Were a I belle, young, blythe, and gay,
Surrounded by the beaux,
I wou'd nae sing sae cherily
Wi' sicken gouty toes.

But now an auld gray-headedwife,
I carenae tho' I cripple,
For whether I walk straight or lame
I down the hill maun hirple.

Where I will sleep contentedly
Wi' a' my gouty feet,
An' beaux and belles maun follow me
Tho' ere so trim and neat.

Linlithgow. R. B.

TRANS-

TRANSLATION FROM CATULLUS.

TO VARUS.

SUFFENUS, whom my Varus knew,
Is pratting, pretty, witty too;
Besides he is a mighty poet,
My friend, ten thousand verses shew it:
Verses quite free of critic care,
No blots nor ugly marks are there:
But royal paper, scarlet strings,
And many very pretty things;
All polished smooth, and neat, and fine,
To please the curious eye combine.
Yet tho' so pretty and polite,
In all that first salutes the sight,
Pray look within, and then you'll own
Suffenus is a mighty clown;
So chang'd from what he was before
That you the changeling must abhor.
What can we think, when he whose blaze
Of taste and beauty so amaze,
Who shines in witty conversation
With such resplendent conflagration,
Should prove so rustic, coarse, and trite,
Whenever he attempts to write;
And yet the fool is never easy,
Except when at his verses crazy.
Himself is all he can admire,
Himself can every joy inspire.
In truth, my friend, you may believe
'Tis thus we all ourselves deceive;
His character all mankind bears,
Suffenus every where appears;
On others errors critick elves,
But blind to what deforms ourselves.

Y.

THE STORY OF UGOLINO *.

DANT. INF. CANT. XXXII. XXXIII.

STILL o'er the frozen lake we won our way,
Where traitors in eternal bondage lay;
When, prison'd in one narrow chasm, we saw
Two heads, the one beneath the other's jaw,
Which with unhallow'd fangs, like common food,
Grinded the naked scalp and suck'd the blood;
And with a rage as horrid, gnaw'd the head,
As his, who mangled Menalippus dead.
'O Thou!' I cried, "whose brutal act declares
'Hate unsubdued for him thy Hunger tears,
'Say, who thou art? and what foul deeds above
'To so abhorr'd a doom this caitiff drove?
'That in the upper world if e'er again
'This tongue that speaks to thee its powers retain,
'I, who now see the dreadful vengeance giv'n,
'Thy wrongs may blazon and the wrath of Heav'n.
I said, and sicken'd; from the curst repast
Upwards his reeking jaws the sinner cast,
And weeping with the victim's matted beard
The gore and flesh that to his fangs adher'd,
'Ask you,' he cried, 'those sad events to hear,
'Which I, the sufferer, scarce in thought can bear?
'Yet if what I may tell you shall give birth
'To infamy, to brand this wretch on earth,
'Detested as it is, my faltering tongue
'Shall speak the deed from which this judgement sprung
'For you, your name, and how this penal zone
'Of hell you traverse, is to me unkown,
'And whence you come; unless mine ears may trace,
'Pure as your accents fall, a Tuscan race.
'For me, from Pisa my proud lineage came;
'An Earl, and Ugolino was my name.
This Wretch, Ruggieri; Pisa's church obey'd
'His pastoral word; her mitre grac'd his head.
'Now learn the fearful cause of what you see,
'And why he shares this place with such a mate as Me.
'Twere bootless now to tell what all must know,
'The rise, the early process of my woe;
'How rashly trusting all my power possest
'And all I lov'd, to this perfidious priest;
'Betray'd and captiv'd, by his cruel doom
'I mourn'd, I perish'd in a dungeon's gloom.
'But passing these, the strange and secret sins
'Which in its iron womb a prison screens,
'The horrors of my murder thou shalt hear—
'Then Judge if he now pay a fine too dear.
'Athwart my dungeon's roof (that rugged field
'Which many a wretch like me may yet infold:
'Which dark report shall name in after times
'The Tower of Famine, from this monster's crimes)

'A chink

---

* From *Fables* translated from the Italian, by *Richard Wharton*, Esq. a work of considerable ingenuity and elegance, as will appear from the above specimen.

'A chink (and I had light thro' that alone)
'The wane of many a moon and growth had shone,
'When on my brows, as wavering slumber sate,
'A wond'rous vision burst the veil of fate.
'This Priest I saw on yonder hills that rise
'And shut fair Lucca's plain from Pisan eyes,
'Prepar'd with eager dogs (a bloody race)
'A wolf and his defenceless whelps to chace.
'The Sismonds, Lanfrancs, Gualands*, all around
'Beset the ways and cheer'd each murderous hound,
'Nor long their toil; the fierce pursuers tore
'Their prey, and dy'd their fangs in guiltless gore.
'Shuddering I woke; and ere the dawn appear'd
'(Sad partners of my doom) my babes I heard:
'With half-form'd sounds a feeble plaint they made,
'And dreaming of their fate, they cried for bread.
'Oh! harden'd is thy heart, if, as I speak,
'No tear, from pity sprung, bedew thy cheek.
'If ever thou hast felt compassion rise
'And gushing sorrow swell thy glistening eyes,
'Now thou must mourn the pangs that wrung my mind,
'When foresight guess'd the miseries yet behind,
'We rose in silence. Now the hour was near
'When the grim jailor serv'd our daily fare:
But, ah! presaging sleep too much had shewn
'And Hope scarce linger'd, though the dreams were gone.
'Then heard I with a sullen sound the door
'Shoot horrible its bolt, to ope no more.
'I gaz'd upon my babes; no tear could flow,
'For all within was petrified with woe.--
'They wept---in such a silence much they read --
'Why gaze you? where's your grief?" Anselmo said:
'But answer to his words return'd I none,
'Nor wept I, till that day and night were gone.
'But when another sun with glancing ray
'Athwart the dismal dungeon where we lay
'Gave my sad eyes, in each devoted face,
'The likeness of their sinful sire to trace,
'Then, bursting into rage unfelt before,
'Both these curst hands with frantic fangs I tore.---
'They, deeming that my deed from hunger sprung,
'Upstarting from the pavement, round me clung,
'And---"On this flesh," exclaim'd "thy famish'd rage,
'"(Resuming what thyself did'st give) assuage—
'"Oh! lighter were the pain to be thy food
'"Than witness what we see, and view thy blood!"
'I paus'd; 'twas all I could--- alas! no more
'Of comfort for the babes had I in store.
'While yet another sun his beam renew'd,
'Our lips the stiffening hand of horror glu'd.
'Earth! why didst thou not yawn? another sun
'Arose ere tardy Death his work begun:
'Then Gaddo stretch'd before me, feebly cried
'For help (in vain) to me, and lingering died:
'That wretch expir'd; the following morn beheld
'To pining want the sad survivors yield;
'Each clinging to his life, with slow decay
'Dropt, as exhausted Nature's powers gave way,
'And writh'd in various forms the famish'd infants lay.
'Now ebbing fast to death, my balls of sight
'In vain I roll'd to catch the guiding light;
'And crawling on the ground my hands I laid
'On my dead sons, and call'd each darling shade—
'Three days I call'd; till Death at last prevail'd,
'And Famine clos'd the scene, though Sorrow fail'd.'
The spectre ceas'd: and, kindling with disdain,
Snatch'd the torn scalp with eager fangs again.
Still as he gnaws, the flesh the vessels grow:
Still as he quaffs, the purple currents flow:
Still o'er th' eternal wound the fibres spread:
Such is their mutual doom: and such th' atonement paid.

Abstract

* The leading families of the faction by which Ugolino was ruined.

Abstract of the NEW POLICE ACT *for the City of* EDINBURGH *and adjoining Districts. (Passed April* 1805.)

THE preamble states, that from the extension of the city, and increase of its inhabitants, it has become necessary to establish a more regular police for apprehending vagrants, suppressing begging, removing nuisances, lighting and cleaning the streets, &c. and also for giving more ample powers to the Magistrates for regulating hackney coaches, chairs, and carts, and for porters and metters of corn in Edinburgh and Leith—for preventing imposition in the weight of coals, hay, straw, &c. To adopt regulations with respect to the weight of bread in the city and suburbs, and also that brought from parts adjacent, to be sold in the city.

The act to extend over the city of Edinburgh, including the Extended Royalty, the Canongate, Pleasance, Calton, St Ninian's Row, North Back of the Canongate, the Abbey of Holyroodhouse, Abbey Hill, St James's Square, Picardy, the eight South Districts, viz. Tiviot Row and Lauriston, Bristo and Potter-row, George's Square, Nicolson's Park, Crosscauseway, Gibbet Street, Causewayside, and Toll Cross; Westport, Fountainbridge, and places within the toll bars, and over the villages of Canonmills, Water of Leith, Restalrig, Jock's Lodge, and Porto Bello—but does not include the town of Leith.

The city, &c. to be divided into the following Wards, viz. 1st Ward, the Ancient Royalty—2d, the Extended Royalty, from St Andrew's Street, westward, including the lands of Bellevue, Water of Leith, &c.—3d, The Extended Royalty, eastward from St Andrew's Street, including Picardy, Calton, St James's Square, Canonmills, &c.—4th, The Canongate, Pleasance, Abbey, &c. including Jock's Lodge, Restalrig, and Porto Bello—5th, The South Districts eastward the middle walk of the Meadows—6th, The South Districts to the westward of the middle walk of the Meadows, including Wester Portsburgh, &c.

The General Commissioners to be the Lord Provost, four Bailies, Dean of Guild, Treasurer, and Deacon Convener of the city—The Lords President, Justice Clerk, Chief Baron, and Advocate, the Dean of Faculty, the Solicitor General, the Keeper of the Signet, or his Deputy, the senior Clerk of Session, the Members for the city and county, the Sheriff Depute, the Principal of the University, the President of the College of Physicians, the Master of the Merchant Company, the Preses of the Solicitors before the supreme Courts, the Bailie of Holyroodhouse, all for the time being—together with two Justices of the Peace, heritors of the West Church parish, to be named by the county, with seven Commissioners for each ward.

Resident Commissioners for the first ward—John Anstruther, Advocate; Henry David Inglis, Advocate; Claud Russel, accomptant; Alexander Manners, bookseller; Andrew Gardner, linen manufacturer; William Lamb, upholsterer; and James Robertson, ironmonger.

Second Ward—Sir William Forbes, Bart. Rev. Sir Henry Moncrieff Wellwood, Bart. John Wauchope, W. S. Gilbert Innes of Stow, William Porter, Prince's Street; James Jollie, W. S. and Henry Jardine, W. S.

Third Ward—Donald M'Lauchlan, Advocate; John Pringle, Clerk of Session; Robert Dundas, W. S.; Alexander Osborn, solicitor of customs; Thomas Hutchison, merchant; Patrick Crichton, coach-maker, Leith-Walk; James Donaldson, printer.

Fourth Ward—George Rae, senior, Resident Magistrate; Sir John Stewart of Allanbank, Bart.; Andrew Balfour, Advocate; Robert Keir, brewer, Pleasance; John Somerville, brewer, Canongate; John Brown, coachmaker, Abbeyhill; and William Jameson, Porto Bello.

Fifth Ward—Robert Simpson, Resident Magistrate; Archibald Campbell, advocate; David Williamson, advocate; Captain James Todd, Captain Ninian Louis, Robert Sym, W. S. and Walter Lothian, merchant.

Sixth Ward—David Smith, Resident Magistrate; James Walker of Dalry; David Brown, Lauriston; Alexander Gardner, Exchequer; Thomson Bonar, merchant; James Haig, distiller; and James Mackay, jeweller.

To

To continue in office till April 1806, when two shall go out of each Ward, and two new ones be elected, by a majority of the votes of occupiers of houses, &c. at 10l. Sterling, except in the 4th and 6th Wards, where the qualification is only 6l. The Commissioners to be householders of 20l. or upwards in each Ward, except the 4th and 6th, where it is to be 12l. Persons having houses in different Wards to vote where the house is of the greatest value.

The Resident Magistrates of Canongate, Potterrow, and Portsburgh, to be Commissioners, without regard to qualification.

The votes for electing Commissioners to be put into boxes, which will be placed for the 1st Ward in the High Church; for the 2d in St Andrew's Church; for the 3d in the College Church; for the 4th in the Canongate Church; for the 5th in the Chapel of Ease; and for the 6th in the West Church. The election to take place on the last Monday of April, yearly. If the inhabitants of a Ward neglect to elect Commissioners, the remaining Commissioners may elect two to supply the deficiency. Persons refusing to act as Commissioners to be liable to a triple assessment for that year. Commissioners may be re-elected.

The General and Resident Commissioners to have power to make assessments, to chuse a Superintendant of Police, to fix the number of officers, watchmen, &c. to give orders for carrying the purposes of the act into execution; to elect a clerk to their meeting, who shall also be clerk to the Superintendant of Police; the clerk to have power to appoint deputies. The General Commissioners to appoint Surveyors for ascertaining rents, Collectors for uplifting the money assessed, and to fix all salaries for persons acting under this act. At general meetings, 21 to be a quorum,—the Lord Provost, or Sheriff in his absence, to preside. The General Commissioners may authorise the Resident Commissioners to elect Subcollectors, they finding security for their intromissions.

The Resident Commissioners to have the charge of their respective Wards, and see the orders of the General Commissioners put into execution. They may elect a Clerk, who is also to be Sub collector: to appoint an inspector, watchmen, &c. One police officer in each ward to be armed and mounted on horseback. Police officers to have the powers of Constables. Four Commissioners to be a quorum, the President having the casting vote.

The first meeting of the General Commissioners to be in the Parliament House, on the third Monday after passing the act, the next on the second Monday thereafter, and once a fortnight till the necessary orders for putting the act into execution are issued. To meet regularly afterwards on the third Monday of November and third Monday of May.

The Resident Commissioners shall meet when called upon by the General Commissioners, and on the first Monday of November, and last Monday but one in April yearly, to prepare reports for the General Commissioners. Occasional meetings of the Commissioners may be called by the Lord Provost. At all meetings the Commissioners to defray their own expences.

Each Ward shall have an Inspector, who shall have the powers of a constable, and, along with the watchmen, &c. shall assist in suppressing disorderly houses, mobs, and riots, attend at fires, and apprehend and carry before the Superintendant all persons liable to this act; and the Inspector shall make a daily report to the Superintendant, shall act as Fiscal for the Ward, and where soldiers are quartered as Billet-master: the Superintendant to be Principal Billet-master.

The Superintendant to receive commissions as Sheriff-substitute for the city and county, and his warrants may be executed any where within the county, except the palace of Holyroodhouse. The Superintendant shall have the charge of putting this act into execution over the whole Wards, may grant warrant for apprehending persons and detaining them till tried, or may admit them to bail, till brought before the police Court, where he shall act as Judge in every thing relative to this act. In his absence, his place to be supplied by one of the Bailies of Edinburgh, as far as concerns it, or by the Sheriff-depute of the county. The Superintendant (with concurrence of the General Commissioners) to appoint eight Constables to attend the court of Police. The forms of Court (which the Magistrates and

and Sheriff, with the advice of the Lord President and Lord Justice clerk, are to adopt) to be easy and expeditious, without written pleadings. A record to be preserved.

The Judge acting in the Police Court may imprison in the Tolbooth or Bridewell, for 60 days, or may fine in any sum not exceeding 40s. and give judgment in damages for any sum not exceeding 3l. The fines to be paid to the Collectors for the purposes of the act. No appeal shall lie to the Sheriff or Magistrates; and as far as concerns fines, &c. shall not be subject to suspension, or any other stay of execution. A copy of the charge and sentence, certified by the Clerk, to be deemed a sufficient warrant.

The Judge of Police may commit persons deserving higher punishments till liberated in course of law, and the Clerk to give notice thereof to the Agent for the crown, or Fiscal for the city or county.

The whole officers under the act are authorised to apprehend all vagrants or common beggars for examination: if they belong to the city, to be sent to the Charity-Workhouse—if connected with no parish, to be imprisoned in Bridewell for a space not exceeding sixty days, and then dismissed: if found a second time within the places described in this act, such beggars or vagrants shall be committed to Bridewell, and upon the first Wednesday after the expiry of ten days, shall be whipped within the walls of Bridewell, and again dismissed; but if found a third time, to be whipped through the city by the hangman, and so on as often as found within the limits of the act. The Judge of the Police Court may shorten the time of confinement of offenders. Children born of persons sent to the Tolbooth or Bridewell, not to have a right to a legal settlement.

The Superintendant may order the Inspectors of Wards to enumerate the inhabitants of their Wards; and persons refusing or giving erroneous statements to be fined 10s—Suspected persons may be apprehended and examined.

The streets to be marked, and houses numbered—persons desrroying such marks to be fined 10s.

Shops and houses under pillars may be extended to the street, to prevent them becoming receptacles for idle or disorderly people, provided the alteration does not occasion any damage to the superior tenements. The foundations of houses, buildings, &c. to be fenced in, and all persons creating any kind of nuisance on the streets, &c. or any carter or waggoner driving contrary to law, or leaving their carts unyoked in the streets; or persons riding or driving furiously along the streets, or riding on the pavements, shall be fined by the Superintendant in a sum not exceeding 10s. besides the damage incurred—but in case of buildings not fenced in, the fine may be 20s. besides damages and expences. The Inspectors to make report to the Superintendant as to the state of the streets, &c.

Persons guilty of breaking lamps, or damaging the lamp-posts, irons, &c. to be apprehended by the officers of police, and carried before the Superintendant, and shall be fined in a sum not exceeding 2l. besides damages and expences. Persons breaking lamps by accident to pay the amount of the damage sustained, and expences.

The General Commissioners to assess every person inhabiting any house, shop, &c. at the sum of 3l. per cent. of the free rent; (that is to say, four-fifths of the real rent of such house, &c. the remaining fifth to be allowed for repairs,) to raise a fund to defray the expence of this act for one year, from Whitsunday 1805, to Whitsunday 1806; and if this is not sufficient for the purpose, the Commissioners may assess one-fourth of 1l. per cent more, to be paid at Martinmas yearly, and in failure of payment to be levied by distress. All houses below 3l. rent are exempted, provided no spirituous liquors of any sort are sold therein, and the General Commissioners may, if they judge it expedient, exempt houses, &c. of 5l. rent, per annum. The rules laid down for raising certain assessments in the act for maintaining Bridewell, shall have no further effect, in so far as concerns persons committed to Bridewell in virtue of this act. Any person brought from Holyroodhouse, to give evidence against offenders under this act, shall be safely re-conducted thither.

Surveyors to be appointed to ascertain rents, who shall deposit their surveys with the Clerk of General Commissioners, from whom an appeal shall lie to a Committee of the Commissioners: the surveys to be made between the

the 1st of July and 1st of September each year, and the Committee shall meet the 1st, 2d, and 3d Mondays of October thereafter of every year—another survey shall take place in December or January yearly, of such houses as were unoccupied at the first survey, and if occupied, they shall be assessed for the whole year, and pay at Candlemas; if any person be overcharged on the second survey, it shall be rectified for the succeeding year. Each year, the Faculty of Advocates, the Writers to the Signet, the Merchant Company, and Convenery of Edinburgh, shall, each appoint two of their number, to assist the meetings for rectifying the rent-roll.

A watch-house shall be erected in every Ward, and an office, court-house, &c. provided for the Superintendant; also watch boxes, watch-coats, &c. for the watchmen.

The expence of watch-houses, &c. and expences of the act, to be paid by an assessment of 1l. per cent. for the first three years, or until the same shall be fully paid.

The Commissioners are authorised to borrow money, not exceeding 3000l. to replace the first advances, for which the 1 per cent. assessment shall be the security; and the Commissioners may borrow to the extent of 2000l. each year, to be paid out of the general assessment; but the money borrowed for one year to be paid up before any more is borrowed for another year. All money shall be vested in the General Commissioners, for the purposes of the act; and a minute-book of their proceedings kept, which shall be received in evidence.

Account-books shall be kept by the Sub and General Collectors, which shall be regularly balanced every Whitsunday yearly, and the statement printed. The accounts to be examined every year between the 1st of September and 1st of November, and finally passed by the General Commissioners at their annual meeting in November.

On the death or removal of Collectors, others shall be appointed; and if any Collector shall become insolvent, the deficiency shall be assessed upon all the Wards; but if a Sub-collector be insolvent, the deficiency shall be made good by the Ward for which he collected. If any deficiency be recovered, it shall be applied in aid of any future assessment.

The Superintendant shall examine the books, and enquire into the conduct of the persons employed in the police; and, if they are negligent, or have acted unwarrantably, the Judge of the Police Court may commit such person to the Tolbooth or Bridewell, for any space not exceeding three months, or fine them in a sum not exceeding 4l. and give judgment in damages not exceeding 6l.; but if for neglect only, the fine not to exceed four weeks wages of the person offending. The Superintendant may discharge officers acting wrong, which shall stand good if confirmed by the General Commissioners.

The General Commissioners may make further regulations, bye-laws, &c. consistent with this act and the laws of Scotland; but if they concern the city, they must first be ratified by the Town Council; if concerning the district of Holyroodhouse, by the Keeper; or, if they concern the other Wards, by the Justices of Peace. And said regulations to be published once at least in the Edinburgh Evening Courant, Caledonian Mercury, and Advertiser, and put upon the church doors.

After Whitsunday 1805, the City Guard shall be reduced to one company, to consist of one Lieutenant, two serjeants, two corporals, two drummers, and thirty men, to be armed and cloathed at the expence of the city, but their pay to be defrayed from the funds of this act. They shall attend on his Majesty's Commissioner, the Magistrates, and Supreme Courts, and act in general in support of the police, when required by the Superintendant. After Whitsunday, the assessment for the City Guard shall cease to be levied; but that fund being in debt to the City in the sum of 6296l. 14s. 9d. the Magistrates agree to accept of 699l. 12s. 9d, yearly for nine years, till the whole is paid, which shall be paid by the persons who formerly paid that duty, to the Collector for the city. The first payment to commence at Witsunday 1806.

Former acts of Parliament for the Canongate and eight districts suspended as to watching, but reserved as to lighting, &c.

The Magistrates are empowered to licence hackney coaches, &c. for two years, each licence to cost 1s.; and if any

any person obtaining a licence do not keep a coach, such person may be fined in a sum not exceeding 5l. but if they surrender their licence, no fine to be paid; and they may also make rules, &c. for hackney coaches, chairs, carts, waggons, porters, and metters of corn in Leith, and may try coachmen, drivers, porters, &c. offending against such rules, &c. The Justices of Peace to have the same power without the city as the Magistrates have within it. No penalty to exceed 1l. Sterling. The rules may be altered from time to time.

The Magistrates and Justices to have the power of erecting steelyards, for weighing coals, at convenient places, on the different roads leading to the city, and every cart or waggon carrying coals for sale shall be weighed, for which twopence shall be paid for each cart, and fourpence for each waggon. The person who weighs the coals shall give the driver a ticket with the weight on it;—the money for weighing to be repaid by the purchaser.

All coals found in the city for sale, without being weighed, shall be seized and forfeited; and if coals be abstracted after weighing, the remainder shall be forfeited, and the driver fined in a sum not exceeding 40s. The Magistrates may impose fines for altering the weight of coals, and also making farther regulations from time to time. The weight of an ordinary cart to be reckoned at 12 cwt. Before erecting steelyards, carters may be fined for selling coals deficient in weight.

The purchasers of straw being exposed to frauds and impositions from there being no regular or established weight, and persons purchasing hay suffer by its being embezzled, in future the kemple of straw shall consist of 40 windlens, weighing 6 lb. tron each, making the kemple in all weigh 15 stones tron; equal to 330lb. avoirdupois; and all persons selling straw at a less rate, or abstracting straw or hay from carts or waggons, shall be liable to the same fines as in the case of abstracting coals.

The Magistrates and Justices shall have power to order, that no bread be baked and brought to sale within the limits of the act, but peck loaves, half-peck loaves, quartern loaves, or half-quartern loaves, except small loaves, not exceeding the price of threepence; and that the peck loaf shall weigh seventeen pounds six ounces, the half-peck loaf shall weigh eight pounds eleven ounces, and the quartern loaf shall weigh four pounds five ounces and a half, all avoirdupois, and the half quartern loaf in proportion, of whatever quality or fineness the bread may be baked, or at whatever price it may be sold. An order to this effect to be published in the newspapers, and on the church doors—Bread deficient to be seized, and thebakers fined, pursuant to former acts., —The Magistrates, when they deem it expedient, may resume the privilege of fixing an assize for the city and liberties. The justices of the peace to order the bakers without the city and liberties, but within the limits of the act, to bake and sell by the same assize.

The different regulations respecting hackney coaches, chairs, carters, porters, weighing of coals, straw, and hay, and selling of bread, shall be enforced by the Superintendant and officers of police.

That the powers for cleaning the Ancient and Extended Royalty shall in future be vested in the Commissioners for lighting, with powers to them to make such regulations from time to time as shey shall deem expedient; but all such regulations must first be entered in the city's books, and published in the newspapers.

That a sum not exceeding two and a half per cent. of the free rent be raised by assessment annually, for lighting and cleaning the streets—The Commissioners for the Ancient Royalty to be elected on the first Monday of June, and for the Extended Royalty on the second Monday of June annually—The whole dung of the Ancient and Extended Royalty, shall make part of the fund for lighting and cleaning the streets, which may be disposed of annually, or let in lease for three years—Current leases to subsist till they expire.

The Resident Commissioners of Police shall have power to light and clean the following places, to which former acts did not extend, viz. Calton, St Ninian's Row, north back of Canongate, Abbey, Abbeyhill, St James's Square, Wester Portsburgh, Fountain Bridge, Leith Walk, and also the villages of Canonmills, Water of Leith, Restalrig, Jock's Lodge, and Porto Bello. The expence to be defrayed by

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an assessment of 2½ per cent. of the free rent of houses, &c.—not to extend to houses let for 3l. A sum, not exceeding 3l. per cent. to be paid along with the first year's assessment, to purchase lamps, lamp-posts, &c. The dung of the places above-mentioned to make part of the fund for cleaning and lighting.

The privileges of the Members of the College of Justice and Court of Exchequer, as far as concerns lighting, cleaning, and watching, are waved, and they are to pay the same assessments as the other inhabitants. Their privileges in other respects to continue.

Persons obstructing officers in execution of this act are liable to a fine not exceeding 10l. or imprisonment in the Tolbooth or Bridewell for a space not exceeding three months; and if an Officer be hurt, the fine or imprisonment may be doubled. All fines to be paid within 24 hours after sentence, or the person failing may be sent to jail. Fines may be levied by distress. One half of all fines by this act to be paid to the officers of police, the other half to the Treasurer of Bridewell, except in the case of breaking lamps, when the person maintaining them shall have half the fines.

The Superintendant to be a Commissioner for Bridewell, and the election of a Committee for managing that place shall take place the 1st Monday of November annually. The said Committee or any two of them may shorten the period of confinement of persons committed there on their good behaviour.

Unfortunate females labouring under disease may be received into Bridewell, and kept secluded from society, upon application by the party, and with consent of the Committee. The expence incurred to be defrayed by subscription, and not from the ordinary funds.

Appeals may be made to the Supreme Courts, within three months, against any sentence of the Superintendant of Police. Persons appealing to find caution for the sums found due.

No action for fines under this act shall lie if not brought within three months; nor shall any action lie against any person acting under this act if not brought within the same period.

The privileges and jurisdiction of the Magistrates, Sheriff, &c. are saved as if this act had never passed.

This is a public act, and shall be in force for ten years.

PROCEEDINGS OF PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

NO business of importance was discussed in this House for some weeks after the meeting of Parliament. A variety of papers, which appeared necessary to supply the chasms in the chronology of the negociation with Spain, were at different times moved for, and laid before the House. The consideration of these papers took place on

Monday, Feb. 11.

Lord Mulgrave (Secretary of State) in a long and animated speech, vindicated the conduct of Ministers through the whole negociation. Knowing the oppression which Spain was suffering from France, they had exercised the utmost moderation and forbearance as long as these were practicable, or prudent for the safety of this country. The Spanish Ministers refused to communicate the terms of the treaties with France, although they were informed, that upon a confidential disclosure of these would depend the conduct of Britain towards Spain. By the treaty of St Ildephonso in 1796, it was known, that the contingent to be furnished by Spain, in case of hostilities with Britain, was to be 15 ships of the line, and 6 frigates. But in lieu of this contingent, it was discovered that a subsidy in money was demanded last year by France, and acceded to by Spain, probably with much reluctance, of no less than *three millions Sterling* annually; a sum nearly equal to one half of the whole Spanish revenue, and far exceeding the estimate of the whole Spanish navy. It was impossible therefore to admit this subsidy as an equivalent for the stipulated contingent, and Spain was informed in explicit terms, that she had thus placed herself without the state of neutrality, and in one of projected hostility.—

Spain

Spain still, notwithstanding this strange connection, wished to be considered as holding the former situation. But his Majesty's ministers could not be so blind to their duty and to the interests of their country, as any longer to permit it; and to prevent the treasure from being applied to the evident and designed purpose of assisting our enemy, orders had been given to seize and detain the Spanish frigates, and all vessels laden with treasure from New Spain; a measure consistent with sound policy and justified by the laws of nations, and which, it may be well remembered, was recommended by the late Lord Chatham on a former occasion, when the countries were in circumstances precisely similar, but which opinion was not followed, to the great regret of the nation at large. His Lordship concluded a very eloquent speech, with moving an address, thanking his Majesty for the communication of the papers, and approving of the conduct of Ministers in the negociation.

Earl Spencer, *Lord Grenville*, and other Lords, disapproved of the conduct of Ministers, in seizing the treasure ships, without giving specific notice of such intention, that Spain might have time either to break her connection with France, or to risk the danger she incurred by adhering to it. The seizure might be a measure of some popularity, but it reflected great disgrace on the character of the country, and gave the nations on the continent room to calumniate us as a purse-proud sordid people, devoted entirely to the acquisition of money, and ready to sacrifice for it honour, principle, and every generous sentiment. They likewise contended, that though we had originally good grounds of quarrel with Spain, yet ministers had not done every thing in their power to remove the cause; they had neglected to accommodate matters with Spain last summer, before the treaty took place with France, which was not till August, and had been previously communicated to the British Ambassador.

Lord Sidmouth and *Lord Westmoreland* justified ministers fully in the measures they had adopted, as being strictly consonant with the law of nations, and with common justice.

The address was carried 114 to 36. The Duke of Clarence, the Marquis of Bute, and Lord Stair, voted in the minority.

March 8. *Lord King* made his promised motion respecting the defence of the country. He took an extensive review of the different plans of defence that had been resorted to within the last two years, the whole of which he said, had completely failed, and concluded with moving for the appointment of a Committee to revise the acts passed in the two last sessions for the defence of the country, and to consider of such further measures as may be necessary for that purpose.

Earl Camden opposed the motion. Never, at the proudest period of our history, was the army more respectable, more numerous, and more efficient than it was at this moment. There was at present an efficient regular force of 132,000 men, and in a short time it would be increased to 182,000, by the measures that would be resorted to.

Lord Hawkesbury said, that our military and naval force, exclusive of volunteers, not only equalled the highest number which it had ever reached, but if compared with the population of the United Kingdom was greater than that of any other power. The amount of that force was 385,000, which would be found to be one in ten of the proportion able to carry arms, estimating it at one-fourth of the whole population. Applying the same criterion to the French military and naval force, estimating it at 560,000, and the population at 32,000,000, the proportion would be found to be only as one to fourteen; this was also the case with respect to Russia, calculating her population at 85,000,000, and her force at 590,000; and that of Austria was only as one to thirteen.—This was the state of the case with respect to a force entirely withdrawn from civil occupations; but if the volunteer force were taken into account, which with the former description, furnished a total of 800,000, it would appear that the proportion of men in arms was one in four or five; being a proportion larger than France had produced even during her most revolutionary period. The volunteer force had been looked upon as a mere temporary body; and hence it seemed to be a very general opinion, that there had already been a considerable diminution in its numbers. This, however, was a very great error.

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The effective force of that body, as stated in the latest returns for this part of the United Kingdom, amounted to 307,000, being only three thousand less than the highest number at which the effective force had at any time stood. Of this number 110,000 men had been on permanent duty; 167,000 had been returned by officers of acknowledged ability and experience, as fit for any service; 85,000 were returned as nearly fit for any service; 40,000 were stated as considerably advanced in discipline; and out of so large a number, only 22,000 had been represented as not yet fit for duty. His Lordship then entered into several calculations to shew that the act complained of would probably furnish an addition to the regular army of about 12,000 troops a year.

Lord Melville said our disposeable force was upwards of 40,000, a number which exceeded any contingent which we had for the last century and a half, furnished in case of a continental war.

The Duke of Clarence, and Lords Carlisle, Darnley, Carysfort, Grenville, and Spencer, supported the motion. It was opposed by the Duke of Montrose, the Lord Chancellor, and Lords Romney, Westmoreland, Mulgrave, and Sidmouth. On a division, the motion was negatived by a majority of 75—there being for it 52, against it 127.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Monday, Feb. 4.

In a committee of supply, the Secretary at War brought up the estimates for the army. The total number of men to be provided for was 312,046, and the expence 12,395,496l. which was voted without any debate, as were the ordnance estimates, amounting to 3,162,416l.

Feb. 8. *Sir Evan Nepean* brought in a bill to continue the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act in Ireland. He assigned as sufficient reasons for this measure, the existence of an Irish committee in Paris, giving every information and aid to the enemy, and the employment of Irish emissaries along the coast, for the same purpose, as well as to correspond with the disaffected in Ireland.

Mr Windham said he had never been convinced of the necessity of the measure.—If the reasons assigned were good for any thing, they were good in perpetuity.—There were mischievous people in England as well as in Ireland, and the same thing might be done in one country as in the other. It was giving an introduction to arbitrary power, merely because there were people who would do mischief if they could. It was said a great part of the country wished for it. It might be so, because arbitrary power sometimes granted security to individuals; but was it proper to entrust such people with such arbitrary power?

Mr Pitt said, the reasons assigned for the measure were the same that had procured a full concurrence of the House during the last war. He adverted to the designs of the enemy against Ireland, as our most vulnerable point, had it not been for the vigilance of our fleet. He alluded to the internal commotions in that part of the United Kingdom, and the beneficial effects which the measures of last session had produced. He then gave a picture of French principles, and of their melancholy effects on the surrounding nations; and from thence inferred that the loyalty and patriotic spirit of the poorer orders in Ireland were rather increased than diminished; but we were not to presume that some seeds of disaffection did not still lurk among a certain class of individuals, and therefore it was still necessary to use this precaution.

Mr *Fox* spoke against the motion. He considered the reasons assigned as inapplicable and groundless; or at least as applicable to England as to Ireland. If the present demand were complied with, he thought it would be quite as well to give power to the Executive Government to suspend the constitution *ad libitum*, without any application to Parliament, as to surrender the right of the subject to the Minister in Parliamentary form, without inquiring into the existing necessity.

Sir John Newport opposed the motion, and moved that a Committee be appointed to enquire into and report the state of Ireland. But the original motion was carried, 112 to 33. The bill afterwards went through its different stages in both Houses with little farther opposition.

Monday, Feb. 11.—*Mr Pitt* called the attention of the House to the Papers relative to the Spanish war—and first on the

the treaty of Ildephonso concluded in 1796, a treaty offensive and defensive between France and Spain—a treaty by which Spain made an entire surrender of her rights as an independent nation—placing her whole resources at the disposal of France; a treaty, rendering her not only a party, but, *ipso facto*, a principal in any war, just or unjust, in which France might be engaged with any country, but particularly with this country. Feeling as Ministers did, the degrading situation in which Spain was thus placed, they knew that the ancient honour of that country was opposed to the advices of her councils; and he trusted the House would commend the exertions they had made to induce the Spanish government to get rid of it. It then became the duty of Ministers vigilantly to watch the conduct of Spain, in order to prevent her filling her coffers with money, and thereby becoming a means of supplying France with materials for prosecuting the contest. He then entered into a history of the transactions between the courts, and insisted that the utmost tenderness had been used, till on the 12th of September information was received in England, that according to all appearances Spain would be compelled to recede from her neutrality. The demands of France were urgent. Spain wished to avoid furnishing ships and men, and agreed to give an equivalent, no less than 24 millions of reals (which was 240,000l.) per month, and in the whole three millions sterling per annum; and it appeared afterwards, that this exorbitant demand had been encreased on the part of France. The intimation of this agreement destroyed in an instant all ideas of Spain being able to preserve her neutrality. After this, Spain again changed her mind, and proposed to render her succours in kind, making merely a nominal declaration of war against this country. This was the most ridiculous of all her endeavours. Was this country to sit down contented with a nominal declaration of war against her, whilst Spain was affording an actual supply to France of the means of carrying on an offensive war? On the 9th of October Mr Frere made enquiries respecting the payment of the three millions; and he was privately informed by the Prince of Peace, that Spain had been compelled to yield to the payment; but that she had not yet signed, or assented to any other demands. What these other demands were, the Prince of Peace never communicated.

No man, Mr Pitt said, could contend, that Spain giving France such a subsidy did not *de facto* make herself a party to the war. The country was told that Spain had not furnished the succours, but only an equivalent: whether for a limited or unlimited time, or whether it was in lieu of limited or unlimited succours, was uncertain. Such evasion was absurd. He wished the House to compute the expence of fifteen sail of the line. The rate in this country was, he believed, well known to be the most expensive; and calculating every thing for victuals, for the men, ordnance, wear and tear, and every other incidental expence, the whole expence to this country would not exceed one million.—There would therefore, of this Spanish subsidy to France, remain two millions for the expence of the 24,000 men, which, estimating it fairly, including the provision for officers, would leave the extravagant sum of between 80 and 90l. a man; whereas in England it does not exceed 30l. And the British nation was desired by the Court of Spain to consider this extravagant sum of three millions merely as an harmless equivalent for the ships and soldiers. His Majesty's Government, after all this, did not declare war, because Spain said she consented to all these sacrifices, with a hope that the affairs of Europe were likely to take a turn, from certain circumstances which then existed; and certainly such circumstances did exist, and did afford a rational hope that something might be expected of great importance. Mr Frere, however, protested against this subsidy, as a cause of war. This was another point highly honourable to Administration, that they felt disposed to connive at the subsidy; reserving, however, a clear and indefinite right to act in contradiction to it, when they might think fit; considering at the same time the naval armaments of Spain as matter of great jealousy, and intimating that the first succours of that description furnished to France would be deemed a cause of war. At the same time they intimated, that the instant any French troops, seamen or marines, entered Spain, that such an occurrence would also be held as another cause of war.

war. These were full, ample, and distinct declarations. Mr Frere also demanded from the Prince of Peace a communication of the subsidiary treaty with France; but the Prince referred him to the Secretary of State, and he never could obtain it. The sum to be paid as a subsidy to France, was three millions, nearly one half of the whole annual revenue of Spain; and he should like to know, if any of the Continental Powers was at war, and this country was in the same proportion to furnish any of them with fifteen millions by a treaty of neutrality, whether this country would be deemed any thing else than a party in the war.

On the subject of the armaments in the Spanish ports, of which information so circumstantial had been transmitted by our commanders, consuls, &c. their existence could not be denied. The Governor of Gallicia said, that the armaments at Ferrol were intended for a secret expedition; while M. Cevallos said, that they were not intended to hurt us. M. D'Anduaga had previously informed our Government, that the armaments in question were intended to quell the revolt of the Biscayans; but it was not until the said Governor of Gallicia, and the said M. de Cevallos had got their instructions from M. D'Anduaga, that they also discovered that the Spanish armaments had a destination foreign to what they had originally represented. It appeared impossible that the Spanish force could have been intended to act against the revolted Provinces.—"If the force," said he, "had been wanted to quell an insurrection in Biscay, and that it had been proper to have sent such force by sea, Spain had abundance of small craft in which to transport her troops; and such she would have been bound to have chosen, if her purpose was what she had finally stated it to be; thereby avoiding all appearance of hostility. In the second place, if she must employ her ships of war, what was more obviously likely to have been her course, than to have taken out her guns, and armed her vessels *en flute*, and not have ranged them alongside the French and Dutch ships in her hostile harbour of Ferrol. Add to this, that Spain has no ports, or none at which she could, with any hope of safety, land troops in Biscay. But where and when was Spain to land her troops, if we grant, for the sake of the argument, that such was her intention?—Why, Sir, in the Bay of Biscay; that Bay, incomparably the most tempestuous in Europe; and in this bay, the dread of the hardiest mariners, she was to land her troops, in the midst of the equinoxial gales!"

The Right Hon. Gentleman then detailed the various instances of forbearance on the part of Ministers; justifying and defending their conduct on the grounds both of policy and mercy; and concluded by moving an Address to his Majesty, informing him that his faithful Commons concurred in the prompt and vigorous measures that he had adopted with respect to Spain, fully convinced that those measures were unavoidable; and assuring his Majesty that they would not withhold their zealous and cordial support in prosecuting the war with vigour and effect.

Mr *Grey* expressed regret that he could not agree to the address. He would admit, that if no explanation was given of the Treaty of St Ildephonso, then that refusal would be a just cause of war. If a Defensive Treaty went to succours on such grounds as had been stated, it was so strong a ground of war as not to bear any argument. The question of policy in the conduct pursued by Administration then remained for discussion, whether that conduct was necessary, and if necessary, whether it was politic? If we could have ensured the neutrality of Spain, the policy in that case was to have admitted her neutrality, and the right to her paying a subsidy seemed to have been acquiesced in, provided that other points had been settled to our satisfaction. This country, before the end of this unfortunate war, may have to pay subsidies for the defence of Portugal, which, had Spain been left to herself, she would most likely have defended. The Right Hon. Gentleman had talked largely on the vigilance and diligence of Ministers, and he expected to have seen some line laid down as the criterion and standard of the mode in which they conducted the negotiations, and he only found some positive declarations respecting the Spanish ships and soldiers, as being considered a declaration of war. Was it not the duty of Ministers, the instant they were informed of the subsidiary treaty, to declare war, in order that at least, so far as we could prevent it,

Spain

Spain should not be betrayed into a contest, in which she must bear a very distressing part? This was, in his mind, a most unpardonable omission. The Hon. Gentleman also censured the conduct of Ministers, in not declaring war, on the passage of the French marines or sailors through Spain to Ferrol; blaming, in general, their timidity, when they ought boldly to have avowed and supported the honour of the country before all the world, at the very first affront and mark of disrespect. On these and other topics he argued at great length, and concluded by moving an amendment, which was very long, and embraced all the topics of his speech.—After a long debate, the original motion was carried 313 to 106.

COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS.

Monday, Feb. 18.—*Mr Pitt* brought forward the budget. His speech on this occasion may be brought into a narrow compass; it was a brief, but plain and perspicuous statement of the estimated revenue and expenditure of the year, with very little in the way of comment. He enumerated the various items of the supply voted, which in the whole, exclusive of the separate charge for Ireland, amount to 43,690,000l. In this sum is included the sum of five millions, reserved for continental purposes. It had, he said, been already stated to the House, that his Majesty's government was at present engaged in confidential communications of the highest consequence with some of the great powers on the continent, with a view to the great contest in which we are at present engaged, and to the general situation of Europe; and in the view of this, he considered it as a duty incumbent on him to provide a sum to the extent stated.

He then directed the attention of the Committee to the Ways and Means for the year. The surplus of the Ways and Means of the last year was 123,646l. He should propose a vote of four millions on the consolidated fund. He then adverted to the war taxes. Experience, he said, had fully established the advantages of that system of taxation. The produce of the Property Tax, might be safely estimated at 4,600,000l. and he now proposed to augment it by one-fourth, or three-pence in the pound, which would produce the sum of 1,110,000l. and would make the taxes to be raised within the year, 15,750,000l. He also proposed to raise 300,000l. by a Lottery.

To these he had to add the loan of 20 millions for England, and two millions for Ireland. The loan had been concluded on terms highly advantageous to the country. It would create a capital of 17ol. in the 3 per cents. for 100l. borrowed, being 10l. less than the capital created by the smaller loan of last year. The annual charge of the loan, with the lesser consideration of the loyalty loan, was 1,537,000l. to be defrayed by the following new taxes:—

Postage of Letters—An additional duty of One Penny on every Single Letter sent by the General Post, and in proportion for Double Letters. A New Duty of One Penny on all Letters sent by the Two-penny post-office, beyond the delivery of the General Post, and a further duty of Three-pence upon all Foreign Letters, and Letters brought by Packets. The produce of these taxes he estimated at 230,000l.

Salt.—A duty of 5s. in addition to the present duty of 10s. per bushel on salt, which would produce about 490,000l.; and an additional duty of 6d. per bushel on salt exported, which would produce 80,000l.

Horses.—The tax on pleasure horses he proposed to raise from 40s. to 48s. per horse, which would yield 110,000l.; the tax on horses employed in husbandry, &c. he proposed to raise from 12s. 6d. to 20s. per horse, which would produce 320,000l.

Legacies.—One per cent. on all legacies in the direct line, which were at present exempted from taxation, would produce 200,000l. Legacies chargeable on land, which are also at present exempted, he proposed to make liable to the present tax when indirect, and to the duty just proposed when direct, which would produce 100,000l.; on legacies left to persons absolutely strangers in blood, he proposed to raise the duty from 8 to 10 per cent. which would produce 30,000l.

He concluded by recapitulating the different sums at which he estimated the taxes, making in the whole the sum of 1,560,000l.

Mr Fox considered all the taxes objectionable, but those on salt and horses used in husbandry particularly so. As

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to the tax on property he was apprehensive it would be productive of much calamity to the nation. Other taxes limited themselves, because when they became unbearable, we might discontinue the use of the article taxed, but here is no limit but that of our whole property. On this system a Minister might go on adding to the tax on property, till by little and little he came to take the whole property of the country.

Mr Pitt replied to the several objections made to the taxes, after which the resolutions were put and carried.

Thursday, Feb. 21.—The different tax bills were brought in and read a first time. *Mr Windham* then made his long promised motion respecting the state of the national defence, which was expected to have produced one of the longest and most animated discussions of the Session, but these expectations were completely disappointed. *Mr Windham*, in a speech of considerable length, recapitulated all his former objections to our present military system, and concluded by moving for a Committee of the whole House, to revise the acts of the two last Sessions, for the defence of the country, and for such further measures as may render that defence more secure and permanent. *Mr Canning* spoke in reply, when a division unexpectedly took place, and the motion was negatived by a majority of 242 to 96.

Feb. 22.—*Mr Creevy* wished to know how the surplus revenue of the Isle of Man, amounting to between 3000l. and 4000l. had been expended.

Mr Rose answered, he believed it had been laid out in repairing the harbours of the island. An account was then moved for its expenditure for the last six years.

Feb. 27.—*Mr Wilberforce* having presented the bill for the abolition of the slave trade, moved that the bill be read a second time. He stated, that this subject had been so often agitated, he did not feel it necessary to intrude much upon the House; the more especially as no new argument had been, or could be adduced against the bill since the last session.

General Gascoigne opposed the motion. He agreed that no new argument could be urged against the bill, but he relied too much on the good sense of the House to imagine it would suffer the bill to pass. No sufficient ground had been made out for the measure, as every man who knew with what avidity slaves were bought up in the West Indies, could not help seeing, that if Great Britain abandoned the trade, it would fall into other hands. The mere agitation of the question of emancipating the negroes, was attended with the greatest danger. He moved an amendment, that the bill be read this day six months.

Mr C. Brooke entered into the subject as a question of policy, and endeavoured to shew how the abolition would affect this country, in relation to France and Spain. If the abolition was general and universal, it would not, in a political view, hurt Great Britain. France, by the phrenzy of the revolution at the time, had abolished the trade, which caused all the troubles in St Domingo, the grave of her best troops. After the peace of Amiens, the trade was renewed by France among the very first acts of the Consular Government, and every possible encouragement to its prosecution was held out. He pointed out the evils that would result to this country, if the trade was abandoned; and said, that if the slave in the West Indies was divested of that odious name, his condition would be found much preferable to that of the labourer at home.

Sir W. Young, in a long speech, in which he repeated all his former arguments against the bill, supported the amendment.

Mr Barham said, that although he had opposed the bill last session, he should now support it, having since changed his opinion. The crisis was now arrived when the trade should either be abolished, or suffered to continue for ever. The slave trade appeared to him, much as had been said of it, as a nursery for seamen, to be of little importance to this country, possessing as it did the commerce of the whole world. It was merely a branch of our trade, and with regard to people being fond of embarking their capitals in these foreign adventures, he believed they would be much happier to employ them at home. He had never maintained, that the abolition of the trade could be attempted without danger, but if there was danger in the abolition, was there

none

none in its continuance? If the chief danger consisted in the population of blacks to whites being 30 to one, was there no danger in continually adding to that population? On the whole, the Hon. Member declared himself in favour of the bill.

General Tarleton supported the amendment. It had been said, that the present period was propitious for the abolition; he would put that question to the House, and would abide by its decision. It was also said, that the slave trade was no nursery for seamen. Gentlemen could not be serious when they said so. He would ask, on this head, What had been the situation of Liverpool one hundred years ago? At that time the population of Liverpool was 2500, and the whole property in the place about 10,000l. Now there are annually 5000 ships floating in and out of that port, and there were no better seamen in the world. The population of Liverpool was now between 80 and 90,000; and the property they had an hundred years ago had now doubled itself in millions. The Hon. General then proceeded to state, that the very first discussion of this measure had unfurled the standard of Jacobinism. He did not mean to insinuate that the Hon. Gentleman (Mr Wilberforce) was a Jacobin, far from it, but he should tell him what happened to himself in the year 1791. In that year he made a visit of curiosity to Paris, where, as was highly natural, he wished to see and hear whatever was going on. He accordingly wished to attend a meeting of the Jacobin Club, and having communicated this wish to M. La Fayette, he expressed much astonishment, and told him he would be exposed to great danger, as he had opposed the abolition of the slave trade in the House of Commons; but, said the General, if the Jacobin Club had Mr Wilberforce here, they would receive him with open arms, and give him the fraternal hug. He added, that he believed a Jacobinical diploma had actually been sent in consequence to the Honourable Gentleman.

Mr Fox spoke strongly in favour of the bill, and Sir William Pulteney against it, when the question being loudly called for, the House divided—For the bill 70—for the amendment 77. So that the bill is lost for this session.

Monday, March 4.

ADDITIONAL SALT-DUTY BILL.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer having moved that this bill be now read a second time,

Lord Wm. Russell said, the tax would materially affect the labouring classes of the community. He had been in hopes that the report of the Committee would have sufficiently shewn the inconvenience and oppression of the tax: they had recommended the repeal of the original duty, and the removal of all impediments to the free circulation of salt; they could not now, with any pretentions to consistency, lay additional imposts on that article. The immediate effect would be to raise the assize of bread; the price of butcher meat would necessarily be increased; and salt fish, which was the chief diet of many of the poor, would likewise become more expensive.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer observed, that the Committee, in the report which they gave in some years ago, proceeded on the ground of rendering salt applicable to many general purposes, among which was that of manure. It was certainly their object to give facility to the circulation of that article, but the chief hindrance to a free circulation was the regulation which the duty necessarily demanded. It was a most unpleasant thing for him to be under the necessity of imposing taxes which in any degree affected the lower classes, but he had a sacred duty to perform. We were engaged in a contest for the defence both of rich and poor, supplies must be found; and no mode of raising them seemed so little liable to objection as the present. When he first introduced this measure, it was objected that the taxes did not fall sufficiently on articles of consumption.—Government had not abandoned the interests of the lower classes. In all the taxes, from the year 1793 to the present time, they have been in every instance exonerated at the expence of their superiors. The sum estimated to be raised from this additional duty on salt, was 300,000l. at 5s. per bushel, and therefore proceeded on a calculation of two millions of bushels being consumed. There were eleven millions of consumers, and it must be obvious how much greater a proportion of this tax would fall on the higher class than the lower. On a fair calculation,

the consumption of a cottage family of five persons, would be considerably short of a bushel in the year, making an annual duty of only three or four shillings, and this collected gradually, and from week to week, so that its influence would scarcely be felt. Taxes on consumption, to be productive, must be laid on articles of general consumption. He hoped, therefore, however specious the arguments used by the opponents of the measure, the House, in support of a cause in which the higher and the lower classes were equally concerned, would not hesitate to afford to his Majesty's Government those means which were least objectionable for that purpose.

Sir W. Pulteney knew, that had not war broken out soon after the report of the Committee of 1801 had been given in, a repeal of the salt duty would have been proposed; the great difficulty was to discover a substitute for a tax which produced so large a revenue. It was a tax that bore heavily on numerous families. One great object of Parliament had ever been, not to tax the absolute necessaries of life; there was a material distinction to be made between those and articles of occasional consumption. Salt was one of those indispensible necessaries; leather was another. The injury done to agriculture by this duty was considerable. When we computed the additional expence which the poor would incur by this new tax, we must recollect that the retailers always doubled the amount in their charge. The profits of the manufacturers of salt were very trifling; they depended on the extent of their sale, and to curtail this would be the obvious tendency of the new duty. It had been so in France, where, when the tax on salt was high, the consumption did not exceed twelve pounds weight per annum for each individual; but when low, it amounted to twenty-eight pounds. In Scotland, when salt is dear, the poor are obliged to eat their oatmeal without it; and it is well known that oatmeal requires more salt to season it than wheat flour does; the operation of the tax would therefore be partial.

Mr Rose would not follow the Hon. Baronet through all his observations on the public expenditure and economy. (*A loud cry of Hear! Hear!*) He had expressed great alarm lest the additional duty should decrease the consumption, but he could inform him that the last duty laid upon salt had had the effect of increasing the consumption. He had been informed by his cook, that for a bacon hog of 14 score not more than 13 or 14 pounds of salt was necessary. As to finding a substitute for this tax, it was utterly impossible to find a substitute for a tax that produced a revenue of a million sterling. It was very easy for Gentlemen to abuse any tax that might be offered for their consideration, but he was convinced that, under all the circumstances of the times, no one could be found less exceptionable than the present.

The Secretary at War said a few words in support of the measure. He corrected several mis-statements, and particularly one by an Hon. Baronet, who had alleged that the expence of salt in poor families would be 5s. per annum for each individual, when the fact was, that it would only be 5s. per annum for each family.

Some farther conversation ensued, in which *Lord Archibald Hamilton* spoke against the tax.

Mr Huskisson argued that the tax on salt in Scotland, amounting only to 50,000l. on three millions of people, could not be oppressive.

Mr Johnstone defended the calculation of his Hon. relative (Sir W. Pulteney,) and maintained that the increase on the consumption of each individual would be 1s. 3d.; he also contended, that the duty, amounting only to 50,000l. on three millions of people, was sufficient to shew that smuggling, the constant attendant of an excessive duty, prevailed to a great degree on this.

Mr Huskisson said, that the duty in Scotland was but 4s.—Mr Pitt said a few words in support of his former reasoning. The question being called for, the House divided,—

For the motion	-	93
Against it	-	62

The bill was then read a second time.

Tuesday, March 5.—*Lord A. Hamilton* presented petitions from Lanark, Rutherglen, &c. praying for a repeal of the corn act.

The Secretary at War did not object to these petitions being brought up; but he thought it of some importance to state, that they complained of an ideal injury, in fact, of a thing that had not taken place, as the act had not been oper-

ated

rated upon in any instance. The people were therefore under a gross delusion, and imagined they laboured under a grievance they had not yet felt.

Lord A. Hamilton vindicated the right of the people to petition. The very passing of the corn act had created all over the country a very great alarm, and that very alarm, whether the bill had been acted upon or not, had answered the end, namely, had created a great rise in the price of corn. He also maintained, that the people constitutionally were entitled to petition or remonstrate against the tendency of any measure, although they might not be affected by its operation.

The petitions were ordered to lie on the table.

SALT-DUTY BILL.

The House resolved into a Committee on the salt-duty bill.

Mr Johnstone stated, that he should not discharge his duty with fidelity did he not oppose this bill. When the last increase on the salt duty took place, it raised the duty in Scotland to 6s. 6d. per bushel. This was, however, soon found to be oppressive, and it was reduced to 4s. This was at a time when the duty in England was 10s. and he should wish to learn what expectation could be entertained, in the present prospect of affairs, that Scotland would be able to pay a duty of 9s. The whole duty on salt ever collected from Scotland, at any one time, never exceeded 40,000l. and after the last duty had been reduced, it was extremely unlikely, indeed he thought it impossible, that Scotland could pay the present enormous addition.

Mr Huskisson stated, that the reason why the duty had been reduced to 4s. in Scotland, was the expence attending the fuel necessary in the manufacture of salt, which there was done entirely from sea water. It had been said that this bill would encourage the smuggling of salt from Ireland into Scotland, but he begged Gentlemen to look at the bill before they accredited such assertions, and they would find in it ample provisions to keep down and prevent such a practice.

The bill then passed the Committee, 120 to 50.

The House then resolved into a Committee on the property duty bill.

Lord Temple suggested the propriety of adding a clause, exempting military officers of a certain rank from the operation of the bill.

Mr Pitt resisted this idea, and stated, that it would open a door for undermining the whole principle of the measure.

Some conversation arose between Sir J. Newport and Mr Pitt, relative to the operation of the bill in Ireland. Sir John contended, that by the act of union, all the money of the people of Ireland, vested in the funds here, was sacred, and could not be touched.

Mr Pitt denied this doctrine, and said that the corollary of the Hon. Baronet was very singular; because if a tax was paid generally in England, that it was not to affect Ireland. If people in this country had property in the Irish funds, would they not be compelled to contribute to the burdens of Ireland? surely; and so it held *vice versa*.

Mr Banks brought up a clause, which was added to the bill, exempting from the duty all lands vested in trustees for charitable uses.—The report was ordered to be received.

Mr Huskisson presented a return to the order of the House, being an account of the balances due to the public, in the hands of John Hamilton, Esq. Receiver General of the land tax for Scotland at the time of his death. Also a copy of the King's warrant, granting an additional salary of 1500l. to Lord Melville, as Lord Privy Seal of Scotland; and likewise a copy of the King's warrant, granting a lease to the Hon. John Hope, of the Lordships of Fife and Strathearn, in trust for Jane Viscountess Melville.—Mr Huskisson also presented an account of charge and discharge of the rents of the Lordship of Strathearn.

These papers were ordered to be printed.

Thursday, March 7.

On the report of the salt duties bill,

Mr Johnston repeated his objections to the tax, as attaching to Scotland in particular. It would be impossible to realize a duty of 9s. when before the people could with difficulty pay 4s. In a country, where vegetables were more used than animal food, a greater quantity of salt in proportion was expended.

Mr Rose defended the bill, after which the report was brought up, and ordered to be read a third time.

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Monthly Register

FOR MAY 1805.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

EAST INDIES.

SINCE the events detailed in our publication for March, relative to the war with Holkar, the British arms have suffered a temporary reverse of fortune, by the defeat of Col. Monson's gallant detachment, owing to insurmountable difficulties.

It appears that Col. Monson, with a detachment of three thousand men, marched from Hinglais Ghur, on the 7th of July, to co-operate with Col. Murray, who was on his march from Guzzerat to attack the capital of Holkar. The detachment was perpetually harassed in its march by a superior enemy. His situation was aggravated by a want of supplies, by continued and heavy rains, which impeded his march, and rendered the conveyance of the guns almost impracticable; and, lastly, by treachery, some of his native officers having entered into a correspondence with Holkar, in consequence of which, in the midst of his distresses, two companies from one of the battalions, and a large party of the Hindostanee cavalry, deserted him. Amidst such a complication of calamities, it is wonderful that a single man belonging to the detachment escaped being made prisoner. After, however, a march of above six weeks, Col. Monson reached Agra; but so closely pressed by the enemy, that the detachment was almost wholly dispersed before the Colonel arrived at Agra on the 31st of August.—Our loss in Officers was 22. The prisoners were treated with great inhumanity by Holkar, who mutilated most of them in the right hand.

Among the officers who fell in this unfortunate retreat, were Major James Sinclair, Capt. James Crockatt, Lieuts. Thomas Parr, N. G. Fulton, William Owen, W. W. Walker, H. P. Stacey, Thomas Sneider, Williams, A. Maillard, Henry Lloyd, H. Harris, W. Nixon, Mr Burgh, surgeon, killed. Capt. Winbolt, artillery, and Lieut. Dalton, drowned. Lieuts. Ford, H. Rose, S. Bowring, Randall, Arden, wounded. Lieut. R. Davidson, missing.

The following is an abstract of the intelligence received of dates subsequent to the foregoing accounts.—

On the 26th of August, Colonel Murray, who had marched from the Guzzerat into the territories of Holkar, took possesion of Indore. No detailed narrative of his operations after that period to the 23d of October, a period of two months, has reached us. It is probable that the defeat of Colonel Monson's detachment, in a considerable degree, deranged the plan of the campaign, and condemned Colonel Murray to inactivity. On the 23d of October, Col. Murray's corps marched from Ogein, not far from Indore, which had been taken two months before. One cause of Colonel Monson's disaster, undoubtedly, was the extreme difficulty of acting in concert with other bodies at a vast distance. This was the case in the present instance. Colonel Murray attacked Holkar on one side, Colonel Monson advanced from another, at the distance of six or seven hundred miles. Holkar appears to have judiciously availed himself of this favourable opportunity to turn his forces *en masse* on the distant, yet co-operating divisions of our army, and thus was enabled to beat them.

There is a long blank yet unfilled up in the history of the campaign, from the 30th of August to the end of October. Letters from Bombay mention, that General Lake, having no doubt taken

every

every precaution to repair the ill consequences of Colonel Monson's disaster, had marched from Agra. On the 3d of October, he arrived at Matura, where Holkar had for some time been posted. A few days, however, before General Lake came up, Holkar took the precaution of sending off his infantry and artillery to the northward. To facilitate the execution of this plan, he acted with considerable address and judgement. He advanced twice with his cavalry, and engaged General Lake's forces; but our horse easily and without loss put them to flight. On the 7th of October, General Lake marched to attack the enemy, when they were driven from their ground, and fled in all directions.

We are happy to announce, however, that a complete victory was gained over Holkar on the 13th of November last, by Major Gen. Frazer, in the neighbourhood of Deeg, a strong place in the enemy's possession. The enemy were posted behind ranges of batteries, in succession for above two miles, from all which they were successively driven. General Frazer was wounded in the leg, and was carried off the field, and obliged to suffer amputation above the ancle. Colonel Monson then took the command, and finished the day. The enemy had 24 battalions, a considerable body of horse, and 160 pieces of cannon, of which our troops captured 87; among these were 13 lost by Col. Monson in his retreat, and 32 given to the Mahrattas by Lord Cornwallis at Seringapatam. The 76th regiment, led on by Gen. Frazer, displayed astonishing valour. The enemy had 2000 killed and drowned in their retreat, besides an immense number wounded, and many principal officers.

Our loss was, total of Europeans, 64 killed, 195 wounded, 12 missing.—total of natives; 84 killed, 274 wounded, 15 missing.—The missing supposed to be killed.—57 bullocks, and two horses.

Officers killed.—76th regt. Capt. H. Norford; 2d regt. N. I. Lieut. J. Forbes; 4th ditto, Lieut. C. Faithful; Lieut. —— Burgess; 15th ditto, assistant surgeon J. Lyons.

Officers wounded—Major General Frazer, severely; 88th regt. Captain J. Chisholm; 78th, Lieut. Mansel; 76th, Ensign W. Bampton; 4th N. I. Capt. Nicholl, Lieuts. A. Maxwell, severely, T. Chatfield, do. T. Bryant, do. and T. Merryman, slightly; 2d N. I. James Murray, slightly; 4th do. ——. Hunter. 15th do. James Turner, H. Sibly, C. S. Schnel, —— Penny, slightly; —— Hales, since dead, —— Boyd.

An attack was likewise made on the enemy's cavalry by Lord Lake, at nearly the same time, and his Lordship obtained a considerable victory. The marches in pursuit of the foe had been very rapid, being generally 24 miles a day, and the last two days they marched 70 miles. He praises the conduct of all the corps engaged, and concludes with saying, that he has not learnt whither the enemy had fled, but they were scattered over the country, and no where collected in considerable numbers. Our loss was only 30 killed and wounded, and 75 horses.

Though we are still without the details of the above attack on Holkar's cavalry, from various dispatches it appears, that the General entertained sanguine hopes of being able to reduce him to a situation in which he could be no longer formidable to our territories or those of our allies. Lord Lake lost no time in following up the important advantages he had gained over Holkar, whom he pursued to the borders of the Jumna. The enemy experienced the greatest difficulty in their retreat across that river, owing to the rapidity of the pursuit; and the roads through which they had fled were left thickly strewed with the bodies of their slain. A great number of prisoners, and a vast quantity of baggage, had fallen into our possession. In fine, the enemy have, in every direction, been completely discomfited.

The Calcutta Gazettes communicate some details of Holkar's attack on Delhi, and of the surrender of the fort of Chandore; previous to which, in storming a small fort, Capt. J. Brown, 7th regt. and Lieut Purvis, of artillery, were killed, and Lieut. Parlby, 7th regiment, wounded.——Chandore is naturally very strong, and commands one of the best passes in the range of hills, on which it stands, to Candeish.

We are sorry to conclude this article with announcing, according to the last accounts, the death of the gallant Gen. Frazer, who was severely wounded at the glorious battle of Deeg on the 13 Nov

November, above related.—He had been for several days sinking, from not being able to retain nourishment on his stomach; a mortification took place, and terminated fatally on the 24th November. This melancholy event was communicated to the Governor General by Lord Lake, in the following letter:—

"My Lord,

"The inclosed note has just conveyed to me the afflicting intelligence of the death of the gallant Major-General Frazer, in consequence of the severe wound he received in the ever-memorable action of the 13th November. Your Lordship will partake in my feelings of sincere sorrow for the loss of an esteemed friend and a brave officer; and his country will mourn the death of an hero to whom she is indebted for the most signal services. His plan of attacking the enemy in the glorious battle of Deeg evinces the highest judgement and sagacity, and his conduct at the head of his army proves the most deliberate courage and determined resolution.

"Advancing in front of his troops, his example animated them to the arduous enterprize. He continued to encourage them long after he had fallen, and his voice impelled them, till a complete and glorious victory crowned and rewarded his exertions.

"In lamenting the loss of this brave Officer, I have the consoling reflection that his memory will remain dear in the breast of every soldier; that his splendid example will animate to future deeds of heroism; and that his fame and glory will be consecrated and preserved by a grateful and admiring country.

"The remains of poor Major General Frazer were interred at Muttra, on the evening of the 25th, and the last sad honours due to his rank were paid by part of that army which he so lately led to victory and glory."

General Frazer was a most valuable officer, has left a large family, consisting, we believe, of seven sons, one of whom was with him when he received the fatal wound.

WEST INDIES.

Authentic intelligence has been at length received of the predatory operations in this quarter of the French squadron which escaped from Rochefort on the 12th of January.

The London Gazette contains Gen. Prevost's official account of the gallant defence of Dominica, which is in substance as follows:—

On the morning of the 22d of Feb. a French squadron of five sail of the line, three frigates, two brigs, and small craft, appeared off Roseau, and a number of large barges with troops, attempted a landing, between Roseau and Cachecrow. They were gallantly opposed by a company of militia, the light infantry of the 1st West India regiment, and the grenadiers of the 46th. The first boats were beat off, but the armed vessels coming close in shore, our troops were compelled to occupy a more favourable position. In the mean time the French squadron was lying opposite Fort Young, pouring in broadsides, which were briskly returned by five 24's, at Melville battery, manned by Captains of merchantmen, with their sailors, the artillery, militia, &c.

Major Nunn, while faithfully executing his orders, was unfortunately wounded, and, it is feared, mortally; but this did not discourage the brave fellows. Capt. O'Connell, of the 1st West India regt. although he received the command and a wound at the same time, continued in the field animating his men, and resisting the repeated charges of the enemy, for near three hours, when he obliged the French to retire from their advanced position with great slaughter. Foiled and beat off on the left, the right flank was attempted, and a considerable force was landed near Morne Daniel. The General had only 150 of the St George's militia to oppose them, who, after sustaining a destructive fire from the frigates, which stood close in, were obliged to fall back. The enemy then carried the redoubt of Morne Daniel, after an obstinate resistance. Capt. O'Connell was gaining ground on the left, notwithstanding a fresh supply of troops and field-pieces had been landed, when a large column was observed climbing the mountains, to get in his rear. The town of Roseau, which had accidentally taken fire, had been for some time in flames, and was without any adequate protection; the enemy's large ships were without the reach of the guns; the right flank gained, and the retreat to Prince Ru-

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pert's nearly cut off, the General determined, with his small but gallant band, to make one attempt to keep the sovereignty of the island. He ordered the militia to remain at their posts, except such as were inclined to encounter more hardships and severe service, and Capt O'Connell, with the 46th, and the light company of the 1st West India regiment, to make a forced march to Prince Rupert's. He then allowed the President to enter into terms for the town of Roseau, and demanded of the French General that private property should be respected, and that no pillage should be allowed. This done, the General, attended only by Brigade Major Prevost, and Deputy Quarter Master General Hopley, of the militia, crossed the Island, and by great exertions reached Prince Rupert's in 24 hours. After four days continued march, thro' the most difficult country on earth, Capt. O'Connell joined him, wounded himself, and bringing in his wounded with a few of the Royal artillery, the precious remains of the 46th, and the 1st West India light company. The necessary steps were then to lay in provisions and water, and every arrangement was made for the defence of the post. On the 25th the French Commander (La Grange) summoned the General to surrender. The latter, in reply, acknowledged that he had received it, and individually expressed his gratitude to the Frenchman, for his kind treatment of his wife and children, a continuance of which he requested, not only for them, but for all the inhabitants who might fall under his power. On the 27th, after levying a contribution on Roseau, the enemy re-embarked, and hovered that day and the next about Prince Rupert's. On the 1st of March their fleet was seen off the south end of Guadaloupe, under easy sail. The General bestows the highest praise (and never was better praise deserved) on all the officers and men under his command. The enemy had about 4000 men on board, and the whole of their force was compelled to disembark before they gained an inch of ground. They lost about 300 men, besides several officers of rank. Our loss was one serjeant, 1 drummer, and 19 rank and file killed. Capt. Colin Campbell, 46th regt. Major Nunn, and Capt. O'Connell, 1st West India regiment, and 18 rank and file wounded. One Captain (royal artillery, his name not mentioned) 1 serjeant, and 6 rank and file, taken by the enemy. Three sailors wounded, exclusive of the militia, from whom no return has been received.

The Gazette also contains a letter from Major Foster, of the 11th regt. dated Brimstone Hill, St Kitt's, March 8. giving an account of the visit of the French to that island. The enemy landed 500 men, and took possession of Basseterre, demanding 40,000l. and threatning to burn the town on failure. The inhabitants raised 16,000l. which the enemy took and departed, first towing out six ships, some of them valuable, from Basseterre Roads. The forces on the island had retired to Brimstone Hill, which the enemy intimated an intention of attacking; but it did not appear that they had any wish to attack where there was likely to be an opposition, but only to plunder the inhabitants and destroy the shipping.

Private accounts give the following more particular account of the attack on St Kitt's:—

"On the 5th of March, the French squadron, which had attacked Dominica, arrived in the roads of Basseterre, St Kitt's, consisting of the following ships:—Le Majestueux, of 120 guns; Le Magnanime, of 74 guns; L'Indefatigable, of 44 guns; La Cygne, of 16 guns; and L' Active, of 16 guns, with two armed schooners and transports. The President of the Island, with the Militia, having joined the garrison at Brimstone Hill, no attempt was made to defend the town of Basseterre. The colours of Fort Smith were struck on the first shot being fired by the enemy, and a Committee from such of the inhabitants as resided at Basseterre was appointed to go on board the French fleet, and to obtain from the Commander the best terms they could for the town and its dependencies, and for the states throughout the island. A detachment of the French troops was landed and stationed in the fort, and on Taylor's Estate, in the neighbourhood of the town. The negociation between the Committee and the French Commander, after some difficulty, terminated in the acceptance by the French of about 10,000l. Sterling in money from the inhabitants, and of the same sum from the Collector of his Majesty's Customs, by a

bill

bill drawn by him on General Matthews, an American Gentleman, who happened to be on a visit to St Kitt's, which bill was accepted by General Matthews, and immediately paid by that Gentleman's draft on the American Consul at Paris, in favour of the French Commander. On the 7th March the French squadron departed from St Kitt's for Nevis, where a contribution of 5000l. was levied, without any troops being landed. At Montserrat they took about 4000l.

It appears that the French officers behaved with much civility and politeness to the Gentlemen of the Assembly at Basseterre, who presented M. Ducrog, the French Commissary, with a gold watch, in return for the lenient manner in which he had executed his mission. He was ashore in the town two days, and the soldiery kept the greatest regularity while the contribution was raising. The shipping was their chief object.—Several stores were broke open, and the goods carried off, by some negroes, two of whom were shot by the militia while at plunder.

The French squadron likewise attempted a landing at Antigua, but desisted, after a short cannonade upon St John's town, which did not do much mischief. We trust the career of the enemy in this quarter may be considered as nearly run, as Admiral Cochrane arrived at Barbadoes on the 2d of April with 6 ships of the line, and after refitting, had sailed on the 4th in pursuit of the French squadron, which according to the last accounts had sailed again from Martinique on the 24th March for the Havannah, where they expected to be joined by some Spanish ships. A large convoy of merchantmen, and transports having three regiments on board, which sailed from Corke on the 27th of January, had arrived safe at Barbadoes in the beginning of March; but we are sorry to learn that a large portion of this fleet, destined for Jamaica, on their passage thither, were becalmed on the 20th between St Lucia and Martinique, and several valuable ships taken.

ENGLAND.

NAVAL OPERATIONS.

On the 30th of March, the French squadron left the port of Toulon, consisting of 11 sail of the line, and 7 frigates, under the command of Admiral Villeneuve, with 9000 troops on board, commanded by Gen. Lauriston.—They passed through the Straits of Gibraltar on the 9th of April, and entered the Bay of Cadiz, where the British squadron of 6 ships of the line, under Sir John Orde, were then lying, and who immediately made ready for action. But it did not appear to be the intention of the enemy to fight, as they stood close in to the harbour, and made a variety of signals. Sir John, therefore, thought it prudent with so inferior a force, to steer away, and join the Channel fleet off Brest. On the 10th, six Spanish ships of the line, under Admiral Gravina, with 2500 troops, came out of Cadiz, and joining the French fleet, they sailed together, taking a westerly course. Intelligence has been unexpectedly received that the combined squadrons re-entered the port of Cadiz on the 22d of April. It is remarkable that their destination remains still a profound secret.—No British ships, that we have heard of, fell in with them at sea after they left Cadiz:—and what is equally extraordinary, no intelligence has been received either of or from Lord Nelson's fleet, (whose station it was to watch the motions of the Toulon fleet,) since the enemy left that port, although it is conjectured, that deceived by false intelligence, his Lordship had sailed towards Egypt in quest of them. Sir Robert Calder's squadron still kept its station off Ferrol, and though the Channel fleet under Lord Gardner has been considerably reinforced, no detachment has been sent in pursuit of the combined fleets.—The return of the latter to port is somewhat mysterious. It is accounted for by some who say their object was Ireland, but that their voyage was retarded by strong contrary winds; by others, that a mutiny broke out among the troops on hearing that their destination was the West Indies, which obliged the Admiral to return.

All accounts agree in stating, that the Spanish ships of war at Cadiz, are most wretchedly manned. Of the means adopted to complete their crews, a letter from Lisbon mentions, that when the French appeared off Cadiz, the Spanish ships were by no means manned; but advantage was taken of the crowds which gathered to look at the former, and a general sweep was made of all the raggamuffins who could be

caught,

caught, and who were immediately sent on board to complete the Spanish crews. The advices from the North of Spain are very positive in stating, that 12 ships of the line, with troops on board, are ready for sea, at Ferrol, and apparently determined to go out in the face of the nine British ships which forms the blockade.

The Gazette contains the details of a very gallant action on the Halifax station, which terminated, in the first instance, in the capture of the Cleopatra frigate, of 32 guns, Capt. Sir Robert Lawrie, but eventually in her recapture, and the capture of her captor.

Sir Robert Lawrie writes, that at half past two, (Feb. 17.) P. M. having got within about a cable's length from the enemy, he gave us two broadsides, which, when at less than a half cable's distance, we returned, and a warm action commenced, both ships steering close to the wind, having shot away his main-topsail-yard, we forged a-head, although both jib, stay, and haulyards gone; our running rigging cut to pieces, so as to render it impossible to either shorten or back a sail, and the mainmast only supported by the storm staysail-stay, I was induced to cross his bow, but in the act of which an unfortunate shot struck the wheel, the broken spokes were jammed against the deck, so as to render it immoveable, as well as the rudder, which, at the same time, was choaked in the end by splinters, pistols, &c. placed near it. Our opponent, availing himself of our ungovernable situation, with the wind upon his quarter, run his head and bowsprit over our quarter deck, just abaft the main rigging, and, under the cover of a heavy fire from muskets and musketoons, attempted to board us, but was drove back; we exchanged a few musketry with them; but their great advantage in height and superiority of numbers, as well as by their musketry from their tops, cleared our decks, and in at our ports. The only two guns we could bring to bear, being fired from within board, did them little injury, the shot passing through their lower deck. Most of our sails laying a-shiver, or partly a-back, and bore down by so heavy a ship, (having been intended for a 74) going almost before the wind, and much sea running, appearing to cut us asunder at every send, I saw no prospect of saving this ship, or the lives of the numerous wounded then below; for in the execution of my orders, every man was knocked down by their musketry and other small shot as they made their appearance. At a quarter past five they succeeding in boarding, and I was compelled to surrender to the French frigate La Ville de Milan, of forty-six guns, eighteen pounders, on the main deck, and eights on the quarter-deck and fore-castle; 350 men, besides several officers and passengers, commanded by Mons. Renaud, capitaine de Vaisseaux, and Monsieur Gillet, capitaine de fregat; the former was killed, and the latter badly wounded in the action, and immediately afterwards the Cleopatra became a perfect wreck, not a spar standing but the mizen-mast, the bowsprit and other masts gone by the board, and I fully expected she would have foundered before both ships could get clear of each other."

Sir Robert bestows the highest praise on his officers and young ship's company, many of whom were under 20 years of age; there were only three marines on board, and they had joined that corps not more than two weeks before they were embarked. The enemy's frigate had next morning her foremast and bowsprit the only masts standing. The Cleopatra only mustered at quarters 199 men, of whom several were sick, being 10 able seamen short of her complement; so that the hostile frigate was nearly of double force, in size, guns, number of men, and weight of metal.

A letter from Capt. Talbot, of his Majesty's ship Leander, states, that on the 23d of the same month (February) he discovered two frigates under jury-masts, to which he gave chace, and soon came up with them, when they both struck without resistance. On hailing the last of them, Capt. T. to his great joy, was answered by his friend Sir Robert Lawrie, who told him he was well, and that the ship was La Ville de Milan, 19 days from Martinique, bound to France. Capt. T. was spared the trouble of taking possession of the Cleopatra, as that office was done for him by part of the crew left on board, immediately after she struck to the Leander.

La Ville de Milan is a remarkably fine and handsome frigate, about one year old, 1200 tons burthen. Her Captain,

Captain, Reynaud, was killed by the last shot of the Cleopatra, was esteemed an experienced and active officer, and had served in the late king of France's navy. He sailed in La Ville de Milan from L'Orient, the 1st of August last, as commodore of six of their largest frigates, with troops on board to be landed at Martinique: after having performed this service, he was ordered, as the French officers express it, to make a sweep through the Manche. His officers agreed in saying, that having dispatches on board for France, with orders not to speak to any thing during their passage, every thing was done in their power, to avoid being brought to action by the Cleopatra.

In this severe action of three hours, the Cleopatra had 22 men killed, and 28 dangerously and 18 slightly wounded.—Among those dangerously wounded is Mr Mitchell, midshipman (acting Lieutenant in the Cleopatra,) eldest son of Vice-Admiral Sir Andrew Mitchell, but he was happily recovering.—"It is impossible," says Capt. Talbot, "for officers to speak in stronger terms than the French officers do in praise of Sir R. Lawrie's perseverance in so long a chace, except it is in the praise they bestow on him, his officers, seamen, and marines, for their gallant conduct during so long and severe an action."

Admiral Mitchell, in transmitting these letters, bestows high and deserved praise on the perseverance in the chace, and gallant conduct of Sir R. Lawrie, his officers, and young ship's company; and also to the zeal shewn by the Leander's ship's company, and their alacrity to engage both frigates, from which, seen as they were thro' a haze, and under French colours, they must have been prepared to expect a determined resistance. He adds, that the Cleopatra had sailed for Halifax, under the charge of Sir Robt. Lawrie, to be refitted; and that la Ville de Milan was a very fine frigate, of the largest class, only one year old, and completely fit for his Majesty's service.

The Gazette also announces the capture of nine of the enemy's armed schuyts by our squadron off Boulogne. The particulars are in substance as follows:—On the morning of the 24th, 20 of the enemy's vessels, under Dutch colours, were discovered endeavouring to round Cape Grisnez from the eastward. The detached squadron, under Captain Honyman, of the Leda, immediately got under weigh, and after engaging them for two hours, succeeded in cutting off seven schuyts. They are vessels about 28 tons burthen, carry each two 6 and one 24-pounder, (one of them has three 24-pounders) and small arms, and had on board, in all 117 soldiers, and 6 lieutenants, of the 51st infantry, 4 cannoniers, 43 seamen, and 4 pilots. They were all from Dunkirk, bound to Ambleteuse. Our squadron had only one man slightly wounded.—The following day two more of the division (gun-boats,) were taken by the Archer gun-brig, Lieut. Price. They carried each a 24 and two 12 pounders, with 27 men.

An expedition sailed from Portsmouth on the 19th April, comprising 44 sail of transports, under convoy of the Queen and Dragon. The latter took under her orders 21 sail of vessels bound to Portugal. The troops on board the transports are, part of the 20th regt. of dragoons, part of the 1st battalion of the 30th, 44th, 48th, 58th, and 81st regiments; part of the 1st royal veteran battalion; and a detachment of royal artillery.

The ships are under the command of Admiral Knight, and the general officers are General Sir James Craig, Sir John Stuart, and General Vernon. Their destination is a secret, but it is generally believed to be Lisbon.

On the 20th April, the Marquis of Cornwallis embarked on board the Medusa frigate, Captain Gore, at Portsmouth, and sailed immediately for the East Indies, to take upon him the government of India, in room of Marquis Wellesley. George Abercromby Robinson, Esq. goes out as private Secretary to his Lordship. There are no passengers on board but his Lordship's suite.

And on the 25th, Admiral Sir Thomas Troubridge sailed from Portsmouth for the same destination, on board the Blenheim of 74 guns, with 17 Indiamen under convoy. He is to have a command on that station.

Jerome Bonaparte and his Lady have at length effected their escape from America to Europe in a ship, the Erin, belonging to Baltimore in Maryland. They arrived at Lisbon on the 3d of April, and Jerome set out for Madrid; but in compliance with the orders of his brother

brother the Emperor, who will not permit this Lady to enter France, the ship was ordered to proceed to Holland with Madame. The vessel accordingly sailed for the Texel, but the most positive orders were there given to prevent this unfortunate lady from landing, and all communication between the ship and the shore was prohibited. The Erin left the Texel on the 17th, and arrived in Dover Roads on the 19th May. Madame Bonaparte is accompanied by her brother, Mr W. Paterson, a Lady (Mrs Anderson,) and Dr Garnier, a French physician. She has been permitted to land, in consequence of an order from Government, and is now in Dover; and she will, no doubt, experience that protection and hospitality in this country which has been refused her in the dominions of the upstart Corsican. She is far advanced in pregnancy.

At the last meeting of the Royal Society of London, the President, Sir Joseph Banks, announced from the chair, that the council had adjudged the Gold and Silver Medals of Count Rumford's donation, to John Leslie, Esq. author of "An Experimental Enquiry into the Nature and Propagation of Heat," for his important discoveries on the subject of Heat and Light. These medals are struck in the same dye, and are of the value of 60l. They proceed out of the fund of 1000l. in the 3 per cent. consols, which Count Rumford, in the year 1796, vested in the Royal Society, to the intent that the interest, at the end of every two years, should by them be assigned in medals, to the person who during that period, in any part of Europe, had made public, by printing or otherwise, the greatest discoveries or the most important improvement on heat or light; and in case nothing were discovered which that Learned Body might deem worthy of the reward, it was directed to let the capital accumulate till some future adjudication, and then to pay the surplus of interest thus accrued along with the medals. Since its first institution, the only premium that has yet been conferred was given to the Count himself.

On the 17th of May, the Royal Jennerian Society held its anniversary festival at the London Tavern, the Earl of Berkeley in the chair. By the report of the trustees, this benevolent institution, under the auspices of their Majesties, has conquered to a great degree the prejudices of the ignorant. It was stated that the small pox was totally eradicated from Berlin, Geneva, and Vienna, as could be proved from the very highest authority. In England it was daily disappearing, as would appear by the bills of mortality. The annual average of deaths for 50 years past, was 2018; in the year 1805, they amounted to only 622. The deaths by the small pox within the last two months amounted to only 42. It is most extraordinary that, though this happy art of preventing the ravages of the small pox took its rise in England, it has made a much more rapid progress in every other country in the world. In Paris 60,000 persons were vaccinated by the Society in three months. In London, not more than 12,011 have been inoculated by the Society in three years. But if England has been more slow in adopting the beneficial practice than other countries, owing perhaps to its reflecting character, yet now that the art has manifested its preeminence, there is no doubt of its superseding the variolous practice.

The greatest fall of snow ever remembered at so advanced a period of the year, took place in the upper part of the county of Brecon, on the 6th of May. On the roads from Merthyr and Pontneah Vaughan, on the mountain, it drifted in some places to the height of fifteen feet. The snow was not confined to Breconshire, great quantities having fallen in other districts of Wales; men were obliged to be employed to dig paths for the accommodation of travellers. In some places the sheep were obliged to be dug from the snow; and the doors of many of the cottages were completely blockaded by the drift.

IRELAND.

An affair has occurred in Ireland which has excited much sensation. One of the Judges of that part of the United Kingdom, Mr Justice Johnson, was arrested under a warrant of Lord Ellenborough, dated the 24th of November last, on a charge of writing certain letters, signed "Juverna," in Cobbett's Political Register. This is reported to have been done on the authority of the Act of the 44th of the King, chapter the 29th, which authorizes the transmitting certain offenders from Ireland to England

land for trial. Judge Johnson was brought before the Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench in Ireland, by a writ of *Habeas Corpus*. His Lordship called to his assistance, in this delicate question, all the Judges within his reach; that is to say, the Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, the Lord Chief Baron, the Honourable Barons George and Smith, and the Honourable Justices Day and Finucane. The counsel of Judge Johnson resisted the authority of the warrant, and the legality of the arrest: after a solemn argument, occupying several days, the question was decided against the learned Judge. He then moved it successively to the Courts of Exchequer and Common Pleas, where the decision was the same. And on the 10th of May the Court of Chancery decided finally against him. He solicited to be allowed to go over on his parole, and his request would have been complied with, provided he would have transmitted a plea of guilty or not guilty, but this he refused.

In explanation of the above singular case, it may be necessary to state, that a prosecution was commenced in the Court of King's Bench at London, last summer, at the instance of the Attorney General in Ireland, against William Cobbett, for inserting the libellous letters of *Vindex* in his *Political Register*,—when the Court sentenced him to pay a fine of 500*l.* and to be imprisoned one month in Newgate. The Editor, trusting to the generosity of his author for indemnification of any sum that might be awarded against him, declined to give up his name; but the frugal Judge has refused all relief to the suffering printer, who accordingly made the discovery to the Attorney General.

On the 28th April, the Corporation of Dublin, on the motion of Mr Giffard, entered into the following Resolution, with only three dissentient voices:—"Resolved, That we have seen with astonishment and sorrow, a copy of the petition lately presented to Parliament, in the name of the Roman Catholics of Ireland, and containing demands of a political nature, which, if yielded, must be ruinous to our happy Constitution in Church and State."

The Government of Ireland, however, seems determined to discourage any intemperate proceedings on the part of the Protestants. Mr Giffard prefaced his motion with a very *warm* speech against the Catholics. Next day he was dismissed from a high situation in the Revenue, which he had held since the year 1783. Other dismissions, on similar grounds, are said to have taken place.

SCOTLAND.

Synod of Lothian and Tweeddale.

On the 7th May, the Synod of Lothian and Tweeddale met, when they took into consideration the reference from the Presbytery of Edinburgh, in the case of Professor John Leslie. The minutes of the Presbytery being read, Dr Grieve, in a very long speech, entered into a full history of the cause, detailing all the proceedings previously adopted, first by the Ministers of Edinburgh, and afterwards in the Presbytery. The Rev. Doctor also in an able manner justified his own conduct, and those who acted with him, from any personal motives against Mr Leslie, and contended that they were solely actuated by a strong sense of their duty, and what they considered for the good of religion, particularly in times like the present. He concluded by moving that the whole business be referred *simpliciter* to the General Assembly.

He was followed on the same side by Mr Ritchie, Mr Anderson, Dr Moodie, and Dr Inglis, several of whom entered into critical explanations of the obnoxious note in Mr Leslie's Essay on Heat, from which they inferred that the Gentleman had fully adopted Mr Hume's ideas.

It was contended on the other hand by Dr Hunter, Dr Johnstone, Mr Muckersey, Mr Pyper, and Sir Henry Moncrieff, that the character imputed to Mr Leslie by his opponents was unfounded, as it rested not only on his well-known abilities as a philosopher, but his personal character as a man and a Christian, of which ample certificates were in the hands of the Magistrates: That the note in question might bear a quite different interpretation from that given it by the Gentlemen on the other side; especially as Mr Leslie himself, in his letter to Dr Hunter, had solemnly denied what was laid to his charge; and they thought the farther prosecution of this cause would be highly prejudical to religion. For these and many other reasons, which were urged with great

force

force and ability, they conceived the business should be dismissed.

A motion being made to that effect, at twelve o'clock at night the roll was called, when it carried by a majority, 32 to 29, to refer the cause to the General Assembly. Against this decision Sir Henry Moncrieff protested, and appealed to the General Assembly; to which Dr Hunter, Dr Davidson, and several others, adhered.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

The General Assembly of the Church of Scotland met on Thursday the 16th of May. His Grace the Commissioner (Lord Napier) went in procession from the King's Arms tavern to the High Church, where a sermon was preached by Dr Inglis, the last Moderator, from Psal. xlviii. 12. 13. After sermon his Grace went to the Assembly Room, when Dr George Hamilton, minister of Gladsmuir, was chosen Moderator. His Grace's commission, and the King's letter and warrant for 1000l. for propagating the Protestant religion in the Highlands, &c. being read, the Assembly was opened by an elegant speech from the throne.

On Friday the Assembly appointed the preachers for the two following Sundays, viz. for Sunday the 19th, Dr Robertson, Killearn, and Mr Duncan, Bothwell; those for the 26th, Mr Bogg, Abbey Church, Paisley, in the forenoon, and Dr Stewart, Bolton, in the afternoon.

Monday the 20th there was no business of consequence before the Assembly. Mr Bogg at Paisley having declined to preach before the Commissioner on Sunday the 26th, Mr Livingstone at Cambusnethan was appointed to officiate in his place.

Tuesday Dr Inglis reported from the Committee appointed by last Assembly, in consequence of an overture from the Presbytery of Annan, on the profanation of the Sabbath, particularly by the fishing of salmon on that sacred day; by which report it appeared that a bill had been brought into Parliament by private parties, in which it was proposed to introduce a clause relative to the observance of the Sabbath, but which had, from other causes, been thrown out of the House of Commons. The report was unanimously approved of, and the thanks of the Assembly given to Dr Inglis, as Chairman of the Committee, for their attention and diligence in the business. A new Committee was appointed.

The Assembly appointed Mr John Spottiswood Agent for the Church in London, in room of his father deceased.

PROFESSOR LESLIE.

Wednesday the 22d the Assembly took into consideration the complaint at the instance of Dr Hunter, Sir Henry Moncrieff, &c. against the reference from the Synod of Lothian and Tweeddale in the case of Professor Leslie.

The court met at eleven o'clock, when the Moderator, being a Member of the Synod, the Chair was taken by the Rev. Principal Taylor of Glasgow.

Parties being called, Dr Hunter opened the case for the Complainers in a long and able speech, in which he entered into the history of the cause from its commencement to the present period.—He quoted many authorities for the opinions he held in this important case, and insisted that Mr Leslie's letter to him was a complete refutation of his holding erroneous opinions in religion, and concluded by hoping the Assembly would dismiss the reference.

He was followed by Mr David Ritchie, who entered into an ingenious but metaphysical argument, to prove that Mr Hume's doctrines were destructive of all religion, and that Mr Leslie, by his unqualified approbation of the essay on Necessary Connection, was of the same opinion with that celebrated writer. He did not think Mr Leslie's letter to Dr Hunter a satisfactory refutation of the erroneous doctrine advanced in his Essay on Heat.

Sir Henry Moncrieff followed, in a very excellent speech, which was heard with great attention by every person present. He was clearly of opinion that this business was wrong from the beginning; that it never should have been agitated, and probably never would have been heard of, had it not been for the right of *avizamentum* claimed by the Ministers of Edinburgh in electing Professors to this University.

Dr Grieve spoke at some length in favour of the reference, and quoted some acts of Assembly to show that the Synod and Presbytery could not act otherwise than as they had done.

Mr

Mr Muckersey, at West Calder, a dissenter from the sentence of the Synod, stated his reasons of dissent, in a speech of some considerable length, in which he disclaimed all local interest in the business, as he had no knowledge of Mr Leslie, and was not a member of the Presbytery. He thought Mr Leslie, on this occasion, had not been well used by the Presbytery and Synod.

The arguments from the bar were closed by a very impressive speech from Dr Inglis, who entered into the question at great length, and contended, that the inferior judicatories had no choice, but were compelled to take the step they had done. He insisted that the Clergy were by law the proper guardians of all schools and universities; and it was impossible to pass over the offence Mr Leslie has given, in the note in his Essay on Heat, without being guilty of a dereliction of their duty.

At seven o'clock parties were withdrawn from the bar, when, after some words from several Members in what manner the business should be taken up, a debate commenced, which lasted till half past eleven o'clock, when it was moved to adjourn till next day, which, after a vote, was carried by a majority of 9 only.

The debate was begun by Principal Hill, who took a comprehensive view of the matter in dispute.—He was sorry this question had been agitated—he had no hand in it, but since it had come before them, he hoped they would pass such a sentence as should please all parties.—He denied this was a question of civil right—it was merely supporting a claim the clergy had long possessed, to superintend the education of youth in the different Universities—This power they had possessed from the time of Popery till the present day, and it was certainly the only proper method to guard religion against Atheism.—The Learned Doctor then entered into an examination of Mr Leslie's letter to Dr Hunter, which he was not satisfied with, and also to Mr Hume's doctrine, which he contrasted with Dr Reid, and thought Mr Leslie's adoption of that doctrine at least very unguarded. He concluded a speech of much candour and moderation, by reading a motion to this effect,—to refer the matter to a small Committee, who should take such steps as were necessary to bring this business to a conclusion, and to report to next Assembly; and recommend to the Presbytery of Edinburgh to continue their exertions in the superintendance of the education of youth in the University.

Principal Brown replied to Dr Hill, and said, it was to him a matter of the greatest surprise to hear at this time, the beginning of the 19th century, old scholastical disputes begin again, which he thought were entirely at an end. He entered into a history of several disputes which had agitated the Church some hundred years ago, and contended, that the bringing forward this question was a real injury to religion. He was of opinion this was a serious question for Mr Leslie, and the discussion of it must much affect his interest in a civil way. The letter wrote by that gentleman to Dr Hunter was a complete apology, and ought to have been accepted by the Presbytery. The reverend gentleman concluded a most animated speech, which was much admired, by moving 'to sustain the complaint, and dismiss the reference as improper,' which in effect would put an end to the business.

The other speakers, many of whose arguments were very learned and full of ingenious reasoning, were Mr Lapslie at Campsie, Mr Russel at Cannoby, and Mr Knox at Larbert, in favour of Dr Hill's motion; and Dr Lamont at Kilpatrick Durham, Mr Johnstone at Crossmichael, Dr G. Skene Keith, and Mr John A. Murray, Advocate, for Dr Brown's motion.

Upon this occasion, owing to the great interest the Public have taken in the business, the Assembly Room was crowded beyond any thing we ever witnessed on a similar occasion. The lower part of the House was repeatedly cleared, to accommodate the members, which occasioned much interruption in the course of the pleadings, and debate. One tenth of the people who applied for admission, many of them persons of distinction, could scarce find room in the galleries. The doors, which were not opened till ten o'clock, were crouded between eight and nine in the morning.

Thursday, the Assembly resumed the consideration of the above cause,—Dr Taylor in the Chair.

After a long and very able debate, which continued till past ten o'clock, the question was put, *Sustain the complaint*,

plaint, or *Dismiss*. It being understood, that if it carry *Sustain*, the reference is dismissed; and if it carry *Dismiss*, the Assembly shall proceed to take up the cause upon the reference.—The roll being called, and votes marked, it carried *Sustain*. The General Assembly sustained the complaint, and dismissed the reference.

The numbers were—Sustain 96, Dismiss 84, Majority 12.

The speeches upon this occasion were both able and ingenious, and the audience were much gratified with many of them.

The speakers for sustaining the complaint were James Ferguson, Esq. advocate; James Moncrieffe, Esq. advocate; Mr Russel, at Yarrow; M. Laing, Esq. advocate; David Boyle, Esq. advocate; Hon. Henry Erskine; Right Hon. the Earl of Lauderdale; Adam Gillies, Esq. advocate; Professor Dugald Stewart; Lord Bannatyne; and John Clerk, Esq. advocate.

For dismissing the complaint—John Connel, Esq. advocate; Mr Francis Nicol, at Strathmartine; Professor Henry David Hill; Lord Hermand; and the Lord President.

The Assembly was equally crowded as on the preceding day, but, owing to the proper regulations adopted, no interruption took place in the course of the debate. The Assembly rose at eleven o'clock.

Friday, the report of the Trustees for the Widows Fund was read, and the thanks of the Assembly given to Sir Henry Moncrieffe, for his attention in managing that Fund.

A petition from Mr Robert Phin, Student of Divinity, was read, which stated that he had been refused to be taken on trials by the Presbytery of Caithness, on objections by Mr Smith, a member of Presbytery, and that the business had been referred to the Assembly. The Counsel for the objectors having withdrawn their appeal, the Assembly agreed to take up the reference, and Mr Wm. Erskine having been heard as Counsel for Mr Phin and the Presbytery, the Assembly unanimously agreed to remit to the Presbytery of Caithness, with instructions to proceed on the trials of Mr Phin with all convenient speed.

The Assembly next proceeded to consider the case of the Rev. Mr Alexander Campbell, minister of the united parishes of Kilcalmonel and Kilberry in Argyle-shire. Mr Campbell had been served with a libel by several heritors and heads of families in these parishes, containing no less than 56 different charges, many of the most gross and indecent kind. This libel was laid before the Presbytery of Kintyre on the 17th of July last; when Mr Campbell appeared, and gave in a long defence of his character, and charged his accusers with a combination against him. The Presbytery having considered the libel and objections, agreed to refer the whole business to the Synod of Argyle. The Synod met on the 2d of August, when the reference was taken up, and after hearing parties at great length, the Synod dismissed the libel as illegal, irregular, incompetent, vexatious, and oppressive—Against which sentence the prosecutors protested, and appealed to the General Assembly.

Parties being called, there appeared for the libellers, Mr William Erskine, and Mr Francis Jeffrey, Advocates—For the Synod, Mr Macdougall of Lochgoilhead—and Mr Campbell, for himself—who were severally heard at the bar.

A long debate took place, in which all the Members who spoke agreed they had never seen such a libel against any individual, and if any part of it could be proved, the party ought to be expelled all society; but most of the speakers were of opinion, that great part of it was irrelevant, and not in proper form. At ten o'clock the Assembly unanimously agreed to the following motion: That the sentence of the Synod of Argyle should be affirmed, dismissing the libel as laid. It seemed, however, to be the opinion of Members, that this decision did not preclude the libellers from serving Mr Campbell with a fresh libel.

Saturday the Assembly had transmitted a petition from John Waddel of Meadow-side, parish of East Monkland, complaining of a sentence of the Synod of Glasgow and Ayr.—Mr Waddel was accused of adultery with his servant maid, at the instance of Mr Robert Walker. The Presbytery of Hamilton acquitted him of the charge; but an appeal was taken to the Synod of Glasgow and Ayr, who reversed the sentence of the Presbytery—Against which

sentence

sentence Mr Waddel appealed to the General Assembly. There appeared at the bar for Mr Waddel, Mr James Miller, Advocate—For the Synod of Glasgow, Mr Lapslie and Dr Balfour; and for the prosecutor, Mr John Jardine, Advocate. Parties being fully heard, after a short debate, a motion was made and seconded, to reverse the sentence of the Synod, and affirm the judgement of the Presbytery of Hamilton, dismissing the appeal brought before them against the sentence of the Kirk Session.—Which motion was unanimously agreed to.

Same day, the report of the Committee in the case of Mr John Adie was read, which stated, that though his having been a member of a dissenting Synod did not exclude him from being taken on trials, yet, as he had shown unsteadiness unbecoming the views of a student of divinity, they should not take place till he has been six years regular and exemplary in his adherence to the established church. The Assembly approved of the report.

Monday the Assembly appointed several Committees, after which his Grace the Commissioner closed the Assembly with an elegant speech from the throne. The Assembly next year was appointed to meet on the 22d May 1800.

CIRCUIT INTELLIGENCE.

Jedburgh, April 17.

LORD DUNSINNAN.

The Court was opened in the usual form, but no business coming before it, his Lordship thanked the Jury for their punctual attendance, and the Sheriffs of the district for the regular discharge of their duty.

Dumfries, April 22.

LORD CULLEN.

David Weir, accused of hamesucken, was assoilzied from the bar. Ann Robinson, for theft, was, on her own petition, banished Scotland for 14 years.—No other business.

Ayr, April 27.

LORD CULLEN.

William Adair, charged with the murder of Margaret Paton his wife, but restricted to an arbitrary punishment, was unanimously found guilty of culpable homicide, and sentenced to be transported beyond seas for 14 years.—Thomas Stroyan, for forgery of a bill, was recommitted to jail on a new warrant. Patrick M'Lymont, also for forgery, was outlawed for not appearing. Two appeals in civil causes were heard, which concludes the spring south circuit.

Stirling, April 27.

LORD CRAIG.

Agnes Wilson, and Agnes Robertson, her daughter, for stealing money and clothes from the house of George Rannie weaver in Alloa, were found guilty, and sentenced to be transported beyond seas for 14 years.

Glasgow, May 1.

LORDS CRAIG AND ARMADALE.

David Scott engraver, and Hugh Adamson potter and turner, both in Glasgow, for forging and uttering notes in imitation of the notes of Carrick, Brown, and Co. bankers in Glasgow, were unanimously found guilty, and sentenced to be hanged on the 5th of June.—Jean Craig, servant to Robert Hay bleacher in Netherplace of Mearns, for stealing several articles from his bleachfield, was, on her own confession, found guilty, and transported for five years.—Thomas Morison, carter in Glasgow, having carelessly backed his loaded cart in a narrow lane, in Anderston, by which a young girl of four years old was killed, was found guilty of culpable homicide, and sentenced to two months imprisonment. William Hughes, accused of coining base money; an objection was stated to the competency of the court, that the case was of a treasonable nature; the objection was certified to the High Court of Justiciary at Edinburgh. Alexander Miller weaver at Bankhead, and John Walker wright in Glasgow, accused of culpable homicide, the diet was deserted *pro loco et tempore*. Andrew Smith accused of a rape, was assoilzied from the bar. Joshua Noble, fewer in Tradestown, accused of forging the name of William Brown to a bond of caution, in a bill of suspension, by reason of an error in the indictment, was dismissed from the bar.

Inverary,

Inverary, May 7.

LORDS CRAIG AND ARMADALE.

John Campbell in Ardyloch, accused of murder, (see Jan. Mag. p. 70.) and Arch. Gray at Largieberg, for housebreaking and theft, were outlawed.—John M'Farlane for assaulting Alex. Macniell, and taking from him a pocket book containing two bills, was assoilzied. Duncan and Niel Campbell, for the same crime, were outlawed.—Nicol Macneill, and Malcolm Livingston, for plundering the cargo of the Spanish prize Aurora, stranded at Lochgone, in the island of Mull, were sentenced to be transported for seven years. Ten others were fugitated for being engaged in the same criminal business. Dugald, John, and Donald Leitch, for assaulting and deforcing an officer of excise in the seizure of an unlicensed still. John was outlawed, Dugald was sentenced to four months imprisonment, and Donald to three months. Robert Whiteford at Marypans, for culpable homicide, was assoilzied.

In consequence of the number of outlaws at this place, the Judges directed the Sheriffs of the district to circulate lists of their names, with descriptions of their persons and crimes, and take every measure in their power to have them apprehended.

Aberdeen, April 20.

LORDS JUSTICE CLERK AND MEADOWBANK.

John Brown, *alias* Hugh Johnstone, for issuing base or counterfeit coin, was assoilzied. John Milne, farmer at New Meldrum, for concussing the Rev. John Garden, minister of Cabrach, to deliver up certain writings in which the parties and the pannel's creditors had an interest, was assoilzied.

Inverness, April 27.

LORD JUSTICE CLERK.

Catharine Sutherland, for child-murder, was, upon her own petition, banished Scotland for life.

Perth, May 4.

LORD JUSTICE CLERK.

Robert Scott saddler, and Laurence Wallace, jun. flesher, both in St Andrews, were assoilzied. Elizabeth Peggie, cook at the New Inn in Fife, for child-murder, was on her own petition banished Scotland for life. George Duncan, for stealing lint, was outlawed; and Agnes Cameron, for resetting the same, was banished Scotland for life. Thomas Hunt and William Reid, weavers, for theft and housebreaking, were outlawed.

Several appeals in civil causes were decided, among which was the following:

A maid-servant having withdrawn from her service, in consequence of being with child, her master applied to the Sheriff for a warrant to commit her till she should find caution to fulfil her engagement. The Sheriff ordained her to return to her service, but the master in the mean time engaged another. She then brought an action for wages, a proportion of which was allowed by the Sheriff-substitute. But the master appealed. The Counsel for the appellant represented the case to be of general consequence, in the present relaxed state of the morals and practices of servants. If the decision of the Sheriff were affirmed, servant maids would boldly hold up their fronts, and quote this as a text. In delivering his opinion, the Lord Justice Clerk reprobated the idea of appointing a woman in such a degraded situation to return to the family. It was offering an insult to the modesty of every virtuous female in the house. When a maid servant became infamous by improper connexion, the master has a right to dismiss her. The incapacity of this woman to fulfil her engagement was induced by her own illicit propensity, and she had forfeited all claim to wages. His Lordship therefore reversed the judgement of the Sheriff.

CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

Whitehall, April 27. The King has been pleased to grant the dignity of a Baron of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, to Sir Charles Middleton, Baronet, Admiral of the White Squadron of his Majesty's fleet, and the heirs male of his body, by the style and title, of Baron Barham, of Barham-Court and Teston, in the county of Kent; and in default of issue male, the dignity of a Baroness to Diana Noel, wife of Gerald Noel Noel, of Exton-Park,

Park, in the county of Rutland, Esq. only daughter of the said Sir Charles Middleton, Bart. and the dignity of a Baron to the heirs male of her body.

April 30. By a new commission of Admiralty, Lord Barham is appointed First Lord of the Admiralty, in room of Lord Melville resigned, and Lord Garlies a Lord of Admiralty, in room of Sir John Colpoys, K. B.

Lord Barham has been also appointed a Member of the Privy Council.

The Marquis Cornwallis is appointed Governor General and Commander in Chief in India, in room of the Marquis of Wellesley.

William Bligh, Esq. is appointed Governor of New South Wales.

Lord Viscount Primrose is elected Member of Parliament for the borough of Helston in Cornwall.

Henry Grattan, Esq. the celebrated Irish Orator, is elected Member of Parliament for Malton, in Yorkshire.

James Gordon, Esq. younger of Culvennan, is appointed one of the Commissaries of Edinburgh, in room of George Wallace, Esq. deceased.

MARRIAGES.

April 20. At Edinburgh, Alex. Maconochie, Esq. Advocate, to Miss Anne Blair, eldest daughter of Robert Blair, Esq. of Avontoun, his Majesty's Solicitor General of Scotland.

—. At Milheugh, Mr John Thomson, surgeon in Edinburgh, to Miss Margaret Millar, daughter of the late John Millar, Esq. Professor of Law in the University of Glasgow.

May 11. At Edinburgh, the Earl of Dalhousie, to Miss Brown of Coalston.

—. At Lewisham, Peter Young, Esq. of Blackheath, to Miss Balfour, of Windsor.

—. At Clifton, the Hon. Wm. Grey, of Embleton, to Miss M. Sharrell, of Clifton.

At London, the Hon. Edward Paget, third son of the Earl of Uxbridge, to the Hon. Miss Bagot, sister of Lord Bagot.

At ditto, three brothers, named William, Edward, and George Warner, of Tottenham-court-road, to three sisters, daughters of Mr Stanard, of Ryder's-court, Leicester-fields.

At Rotterdam, John Ferguson, Esq. merchant, to Miss Mary Braid, daughter of the late Mr Braid.

DEATHS.

September 27. 1804. In the Fort of Agra, Col. William Scott, Resident at the Court of Delhi, in the East Indies.

May 2. At Herbertshire, Mr Thomas Morehead, youngest son of William Morehead, Esq. of Herbertshire.

3. At Blair Manse, the Rev. James M'Laggan, minister of Blair Athol, in the 77th year of his age, and 50th of his ministry.

5. William Dunbar, Esq. of Houndwood, in the 77th year of his age.

7. At London, after a tedious illness, the Most Noble William Petty, Marquis of Lansdown, Earl of Wycombe, and Viscount Calne and Calnstone, Lord Wycombe, Earl of Shelburne, Viscount Fitz-Maurice, and Baron Dunkerrin, Irish honours, K. G. He was born in 1737, and succeeded his father, May 1761. Married Feb. 3. 1765, Sophia, daughter of John, Earl of Granville, and by her, who died in 1771, he had issue, John-Henry, Earl of Wycombe, born December 6. 1765; William, died Jan. 27. 1778. His Lordship married, secondly, July 19. 1779, Louisa Fitzpatrick, sister to the Earl of Upper Ossory, by whom, who died August 7. 1789, he had Lord Henry Petty, born July 1780; a daughter, born December 8. 1781; died an infant. His Lordship is succeeded by his eldest son, the Earl of Wycombe.

Of a lineage yielding to not many in those relations which constitute the general pride of families, this Nobleman appears from his outset in life to have contemplated the doing justice to his birth by pursuits and studies suitable to his dignity. He began in the army, and, under Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick, had a share in the dangers and the honours of the seven years war. The activity of his mind soon directed him to courses which are commonly supposed to require a greater power of intellect, as well as a wider compass of mental cultivation. The Noble Marquis, then Earl of Shelburne, at so early a period as the King's accession to the throne, was made a Lord of trade, at which time he could be only about 25 years old. In the rapid changes of Administration, which marked the first six years of this eventful reign, the Earl of Shelburne was neither idle nor

undistinguished; and he made himself so considerable a feature in the politics of the country, that he was appointed to the high office of Secretary of State, near 40 years since, namely, in 1766, in the Ministry of the Duke of Grafton. In this office he continued for near two years, till his colleagues, at the instance of the French Minister, the Duke de Choiseul, were induced to disown him, —in the affair of Corsica. The Noble Earl, soon after, appeared among the Principals of Opposition; with whom he continued a zealous co-operator, until the famous change of Ministry in 1782, when he and Mr Fox were made joint Secretaries of State. On the death of the Marquis of Rockingham, he succeeded to the Premiership, as first Lord of the Treasury, and introduced Mr Pitt to office, as Chancellor of the Exchequer; but this Administration, which brought about the peace of 1783, was not of long duration, having been obliged to give away to the Coalition Ministry of Lord North and Mr Fox. His Lordship was considered a deep politician, but his state of health has not for a considerable time permitted him to take an active part in the business of politics.

The Marquis of Lansdown's extensive entailed estates, both in England and Ireland, amounting to more than 35,000l. per annum, devolve on his eldest son, Lord Wycombe, now Marquis of Lansdown; but 10,000l. per annum, and nearly 100,000l. in specie are willed to his other son, Lord Henry Petty.

7. At Ellie, Fifeshire, Miss Margaret Govan.

8. At Hampstead, Mrs Blaquiere, widow of John Peter Blaquiere, Esq. Also, on the same day, at the same house, Mrs Grant, widow of Captain Ludovick Grant of Knockando, and sister of the above Lady.

8. At Egham, in the 80th year of her age, the Hon. Dowager Lady Mary Eatte, daughter of the third Lord Balfenden, first cousin to the Duke of Roxburgh, and aunt to Mrs Gawler, of Bishopsgate, near Egham.

9. At Grangemouth, Agnes Gray, relict of the late Sebastian Swinton, merchant in Inverkeithing.

9. Mr James M'Kenzie, merchant in Glasgow.

9. At Glasgow, Mrs Gracie, relict of Mr Wm. Gracie, merchant, Dumfries.

—. At his house in Southampton-row, Bloomsbury, London, Wm. Dinwoody, Esq.

—. Francis William Barlow, Esq. Member for Coventry, and Captain in the 1st regiment of dragoon guards.

11. At Edinburgh, Mrs Mary Menzies, widow of James Reid, Esq. of Gorgie, and daughter of the late James Menzies, Esq. of Culdares.

11. At Leith, Mrs Jane Alves, wife of the Rev. Mr Ireland, one of the ministers of North Leith.

11. At Edinburgh, Miss Lilias Jane Cunningham, only daughter of Mr Alexander Cunningham, jeweller, aged nine years.

12. At Glasgow, Mrs Elizabeth Wright, daughter of Dr Peter Wright, physician in Glasgow, and spouse of Mr James Burnside, merchant.

—. At Somers-Town, Count de Bottrieul, a French Emigrant. He expired suddenly in his bed. The deceased was an aged man, who was distinguished at the Court of the late King of France: he suffered long imprisonment in the Bicetre, under the tyranny of Robespierre, and afterwards escaped to this country in an open boat from Dieppe.

15. William Murdoch, Esq. of Gartincaber.

16. At his house of Kersiebank, Lithgowshire, John Fiston of Kersiebank, Esq. solicitor at law, Edinburgh.

—. At the Manse of Dalsert, at an advanced age, the Rev. John Risk, many years minister of that parish.

—. At Campbeltown, Mrs Harvey, wife of Mr Nath. Harvey, merchant there.

—. At Chelmsford, Essex, Miss Euphemia Lockhart, daughter of the late Chs. Lockhart, Esq. of Muiravonside; and at the same place, on the 17th, Alexander, second son of Alex. Macdonald Lockhart, Esq.

19. At Cheltenham, Miss Christian Erskine, youngest daughter of the deceased James Erskine, Esq. of Cardross.

21. At Leith, James Mitchell, Esq. formerly merchant in Leith.

21. At Montrose, Mrs Elizabeth Strachan, daughter of the late Alexander Strachan, Esq. of Tarrie.

Trics

Price of Stocks.

1805.	Bank Stock.	Omnium.	3 per cent Consols.
May 7	178	3⅛ pr.	58 57⅛
14.	——	3½ —	58 57¾
21.	174	3⅝ 4 —	58 57⅛
28.	——	3¾ —	58⅛ ⅜ ⅝

Prices of Grain per quarter, Corn Exchange, London.

1805.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Pease.
	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.
May 6	80 96	37 41	24 28	36 42
13.	80 97	36 41	24 29	36 42
20.	80 97	35 40	24 30	36 42
27.	80 100	36 41	25 29	38 42

Prices of Grain at Haddington.

1805.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Peafe.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
May 3.	46 0	29 0	20 0	15 0
10.	44 0	28 0	20 0	15 0
17.	45 0	26 0	20 0	16 0
24.	44 6	27 0	20 0	15 0

Prices of Oat, Pease, and Barley Meal, in Edinburgh Market per Peck.

1805.	Oatmeal. Bolls.	Oatmeal. Price.	Pease & Barley Meal. Bolls.	Pease & Barley Meal. Price.
		d. d.		d. s.
May 4.		15 14½		15 1
17.		15 14½		15 1
21.		15 14½		15 1
28.		15 14½		15 1

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The curious Essay on *Surnames* will appear in our next. To the Friend of *William Allan* we would observe, that in supposing that "some parts of a criticism on the Man of Sorrow may perhaps be just," we said only what may apply to any poetical composition of the same length, and were far from intending to express an unfavourable opinion of the poem in general. His request to have the criticism inserted, shows strongly his firm, and, we think, well-founded conviction of the merits of the deceased. But we think it needless to begin a voluminous controversy, especially on a subject where the appeal must finally be made only to the taste of the public.

J. F.'s Essays are not of the description which we consider as best adapted to our miscellany. These ought either to contain something new, or to relate to subjects on which, from local and temporary causes, the public mind happens to be peculiarly interested. As they are not, however, without merit, it is possible, should we at any time find room (which at present there is no immediate prospect of) that one or both may be inserted.

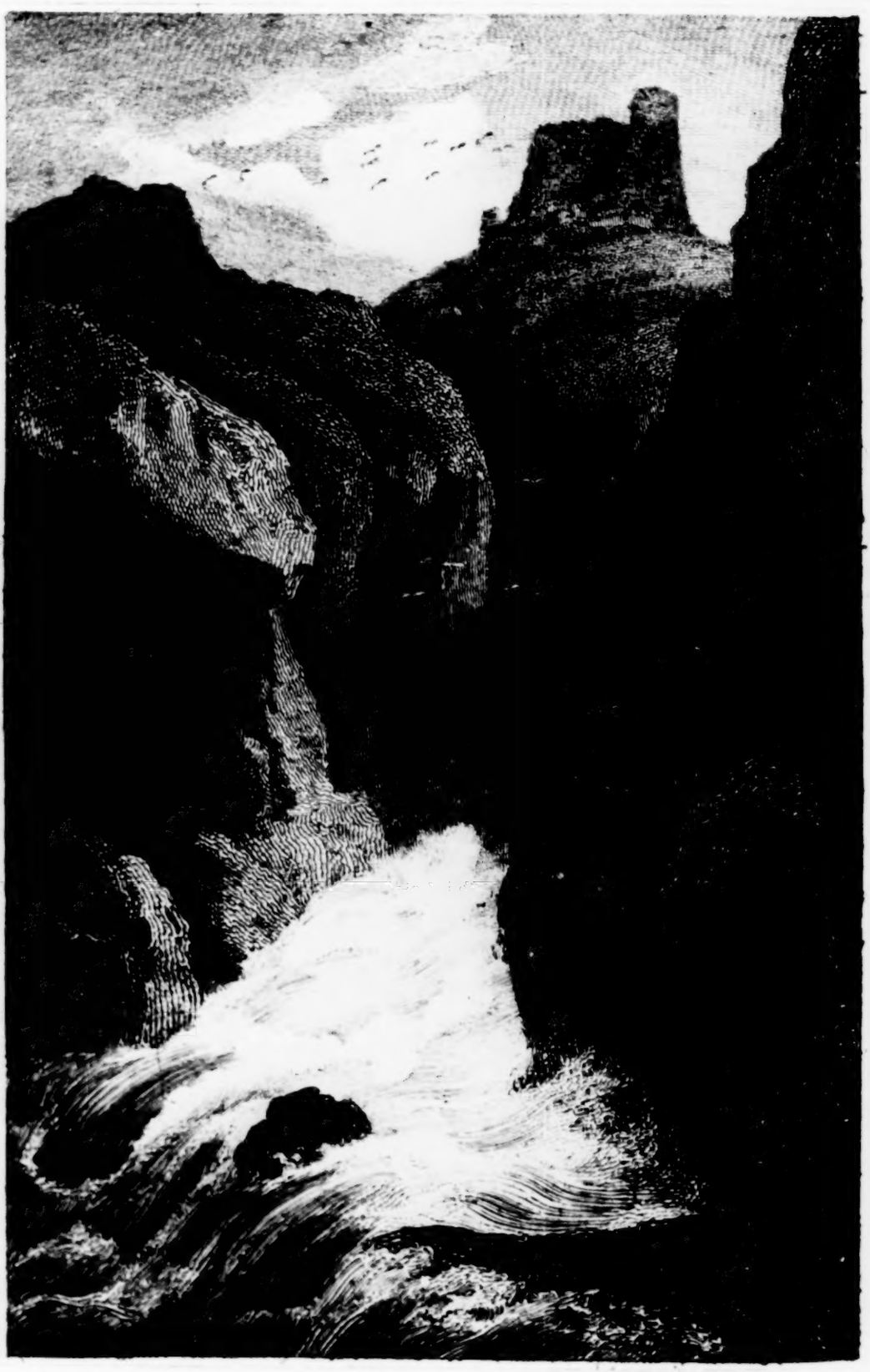
Observations nearly similar will apply to *P. S.*

J. S. is of a length rather beyond what the limits of our publication, or the importance of the subject, seemed to admit of. As it contains, however, a number of curious particulars, we may probably soon find a place for it.

Mrs Skinflint, we are afraid, has trod rather on too beaten ground. The humorous poem accompanying will certainly appear in our next, as will also *J. F.*'s verses.

The Query about *Beausobre* arrived too late for this month. We shall be particularly obliged to such correspondents as may furnish us with topographical information, accounts of improvements carrying on, and new establishments of every kind, throughout Scotland.

Errata in our last.—P. 261. col. 1. line 7. from the bottom, *read* and the peculiar advantages. In the account of the American Crown Pea, p. 269. col. 1. line 23. for the *read* this. In the note at the foot of the same page, for *pisune* read *pisum*. Page 270. col. 1. *penult.* line, for imagination *read* imitation: (it is requested that this last erratum may be corrected with a pen, as it destroys the sense.)



THE BROCH of CULSWICK & PICTISH FORT ZETLAND.

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